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23rd Mar.	PENINSULAR	5294	MARMORA	10509
30th "	CALEDONIA	7558		
6th Apr.	MACEDONIA	10513		
13th "	CHINA	7912		
20th "	PENINSULAR	5294	MOLDAVIA	9800
27th "	EGYPT	7912		
4th May	ORIENTAL	5294	HIMALAYA	6898
11th "	ARABIA	7908		
18th "	PENINSULAR	5294	VICTORIA	6522
26th "	PERSIA	7961		
1st June	ORIENTAL	5294	INDIA	7911
8th "	PENINSULAR	5 74		

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YARRA	4142	Sellier	13th June "
NERA	3578	Schmitz	11th July "
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NERA	3,578	Schmitz	27th Apr. "
DUMBEA	5,686	Boyer	25th May "

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* † VORWAERTS	5960	R. Colledani	2nd May.
* PERSIA	5895	F. Craglietto	25th May.
* TRIESTE	8095	D. Mistrorigo	24th June.
* F. FERDINAND	6046	C. Matcovich	2nd Aug.

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DWARKA	1,700	Thur. 28th Mar.	9 a.m.	Cutch Mandvie.
LHASA	2,170	Frid. 29th Mar.	7 a.m.	(direct).*

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CASTALIA	F. S. Blight	6300	6th April.
MASSILIA	J. Thomson	8091	16th "
OLYMPIA	C.F. Osborne, R.N.R.	8124	4th May.
CIRCASSIA	A. Haig	6716	28th "
SCINDIA	Shafto Abrey	5106	19th June.
CASTALIA	F. S. Blight	6300	9th July.
MASSILIA	J. Thomson	8,091	24th "
OLYMPIA	C.F. Osborne, R.N.R.	8124	11th Aug.
CIRCASSIA	A. Haig	6716	27th "
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COLOMBO MARU	...	K. Homma	2nd Apr	13th April
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TOYOMI MARU	...	A. Keith	14th May	28th May
RIOJUN MARU	...	G. S. Lapraik	28th May	8th June
KAGOSHIMA MARU	...	K. Kori	11th June	22nd June
COLOMBO MARU	...	K. Homma	25th June	6th July
BOMBAY MARU	...	S. Ishikawa	9th July	20th July
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30	27 4	56 13	43 13	36 0	65 10	49 0	39 11	30
35	31 5	62 4	47 1	39 12	66 12	50 8	41 10	35
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H. G. GELL,
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POLICE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BOMBAY, 22ND MARCH, 1907.

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BOMBAY, 22ND MARCH, 1907.

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BOMBAY, 15TH MARCH, 1907.

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SATURDAY, 30th MARCH, 1907.

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CECIL GRAY,
Secretary, W. I. T. C.

BOMBAY, 20TH MARCH, 1907.

LIFE INSURANCE.—When certain figures of just published become accessible Anglo-Indians three of whom have insured under the advice of Mr. E. P. HENDERSON, I. C. S., retd., in a certain eminent life Office, will find that they have reason to congratulate themselves on their investment. These figures afford a lesson to any weak-minded Policy-holders who have allowed themselves to be driven recently by attempts made in India to frighten them concerning their Office—attempts often by unduly interested characters, emanating almost invariably from Indian insurance agents who have applied for and have failed to secure a new Agency of the office in question. Mr. Henderson strongly advises any of the correspondents in whose presence reference is made adverse to his work to read this criticism to put this statement on to pay and to sign them, at the same time warning him that they will be sent to Mr. Henderson. He ventures to predict that not one such person in one hundred will accept the challenge, and he fancies that most men of sense will conquer when in reading this they will ask any one paper over their whole career what they will find. Several are unworthy of attention. Mr. Henderson's many friends will be glad to hear that in spite of various attempts to obstruct his work—e.g., the rumour put about in India last year that he was about to abandon his undertaking of which he has not the slightest intention—he has assumed still more colossal proportions, his new cases of last year numbering 1,115, and the sums insured under life Policies coming the immense total of 1905 by more than a third. It should seem to be strongly accepted now in India that all persons who effect their insurance, or who remained insured under existing Policies, without obtaining competent, reliable, technical advice are ill-advised. Mr. Henderson is prouder to say as that he has good reason to assert that his work has greatly stimulated systematic saving in India by sensible and judicious folk.

Mr. HENDERSON's new pamphlet will be ready in a month or two, and will be fully in accordance with Office which has a branch in India, concerning which a circular was scattered over the country last year so as to win the authorities of the said Office have found it necessary to acknowledge it, within the year. Henderson's the circular contains statements "not in accordance with fact," Comparative figures in the pamphlet will enable Anglo-Indians to judge how far the Office under reference is justly described in the terms of that circular.

Mr. HENDERSON is also preparing a private and confidential pamphlet embodying about fifty consecutive cases from his practice which will be furnished on application to any gentleman who in his judgment may be safely trusted with it. The conditions on which Mr. Henderson's advice is available can be had on application to the Manager, "Bombay Gazette," with a stamped addressed envelope; and his Pamphlet can be had on application to Mr. Henderson himself by members of the Services and professional Insurance Agents and Bankers excluded). 42, Lansdowne Gardens, London, W.

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1. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report of progress since the registration of the Company on the 24th September, 1906.
2. To elect Directors of the Company as all the present Directors (except the Director ex-officio) retire at the meeting under Clause 97 of the Articles of Association of the Company but are eligible for re-election under Clause 103 of the Articles of Association.
3. To confirm the appointment of Messrs. Hormasji E. Davur & Sons as auditors, made by the Board under Clause 133 of the Company's Articles of Association on a remuneration of Rs. 100 per annum.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

LONDON MARKETS.

LONDON, *March* 21.] [BOMBAY, *March* 22.

FINANCIAL.

	Rates.	Plus.	Minus.
2½ per cent. Consols ...	85⅛		¼
3 do. Rentes	94⅛		¼
3½ do. Sterling Loan ...	101	un	chgd
3½ do. Govt. Securities ...	65⅞	un	chgd
Bar Silver in London ...	30⅛	1/16	
Do. do. 2 months' hence	30⅛	1/16	
Do. in New York ...	66⅜	⅛	
Exchange on London at Paris ...	25·23	un	chgd
Do. do. do. Berlin.	20·51	¼	
Do. do. do. New York.	4·83½	¼	Since 17 Jan
Discount Bank of England Rate.	5%		
Do. Short London Bills, 3 months' sight ...	5%	un	chgd
Do. Indian Bank Bills, 6 months' sight ...	5%	un	chgd
Do. 3 Months' Fine Trade Bills ...	5⅛%	un	chgd
Do. 6 Months' Fine Trade Bills ...	5⅛%	un	chgd
terest Day-to-day Loans ...	3⅛%	⅛	
Do. 7-day Market Loans ...	4⅛%	⅛	

The French Bank rate is increased ½ per cent.
Amount paid into the Bank of England .....£175,000.
Exchange on India, 30 days' sight (Bank's buying rate)... 1s. 3 1/16d.
Bills on Calcutta.....Rs. 30,000 at 1s. 4 1/16d.
Transfers on Calcutta Rs. 1,00,000 at 1s. 4 1/32d.

MAILS :—
The Bombay Mails of the 9th ultimo arrived at Brindisi on the 20th instant.

SPECIE SHIPMENTS.

The Bank of England Returns for the week ending yesterday show the following results :—

Total Bullion ...	£26,100,000	Inc. £ 100,000
Public Deposits ...	£16,500,000	Dec. £ 800,000
Other Deposits ...	£43,700,000	Inc. £3,500,000
Government Securities	£15,400,000	unchanged.
Other Securities ...	£26,600,000	Inc. £2,900,000
Notes and Gold ...	£26,500,000	Dec. £ 200,000

The Bank's Reserve is 44 % of the Liabilities.

COTTON.

Spots	Quiet
Futures	Steady
East Indian... ...	Dull
Manchester	Easier
Total Sales	10,000
Sold on Speculation and for Export...	1,000
Imports	11,000
Mid-Americans ...	5·98+03
Egyptian F. G. F. Brown ...	11¼ unchgd

FUTURE DELIVERY PRICES—

Mar.-Apl.	Apl.-May	May-June	June-July
5·62	5·62	5·62	5·61
+04	+04	+04	+03

July-Aug.	Aug.-Sept.	Sept.-Oct.	Oct.-Nov.	Nov.-Dec.
5·61	5·60	5·58	5·56	5·55
+03	+04	+03	+04	+04

New York—
Receipts at U. S. Ports ... ... 22,000 bales
Do. do. last year ... 15,000 „
Exports to Great Britain ... 3,000 „
Do. to Continent ... ...
Spot Cotton—11·10+10
Futures—Month of March 9·55 + 22 } Advanced owing to firm cables and to Bull Support and short Covering.
Do. do. July 9·69 + 19 }

New Orleans—
Spot Cotton—10½+½
Futures—Month of May 10·39+20
Do. do. July 10·49+19
Closing Tone of Futures—Steady.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Coffee—
In New York Fair Rio (No. 7 quality), 7¼ unchanged.
ARRIVALS :—
" Victorious " " Zaida "

BOMBAY MARKETS.

FRIDAY EVENING.] [22ND MARCH, 1907.

FINANCIAL.

MONEY.

Bank Rate—		
Bank of England	since 17th January	'07 5 per cent.
Bank of Bombay	do. 7th March	'07 8 do.
Bank of Bengal	do. 6th December	'06 9 do.
Bank of Madras	do. 15th January	'07 9 do.

The following is the Weekly Statement of the Bank of Bombay, for the last week, as compared with the previous one :—

LIABILITIES—	Increase. Rs.	Decrease. Rs.
Public Deposits ...	20,17,197	.....
Other Deposits ...	.....	11,85,701
Sundries ...	68,639	.....
ASSETS—		
Government Securities ...	.....	54,733
Other Authorised Securities	.....	1,76,004
Credits on Govt. and other Authorised Securities ...	84,654	.....
Loans on Govt. and other Authorised Securities ...	2,64,189	.....
Bills Discounted and Purchased ...	.....	10,50,224
Bullion ...	.....	26,353
Balance with other Banks...	2,49,776	.....
Sundries ...	2,860	.....
Cash...	6,02,045	.....

Council Bills :—
At the weekly bidding on Wednesday last 50 lakhs was offered, of which amount 23·90 lakhs was allotted in Bills at 1s. 4 1/32d. and 26·10 lakhs Transfers at 1s. 4 1/16d., these prices being 1/32d. higher than last week. Tenderers at these rates received 58 per cent. The total amount paid during the week ending on Tuesday evening last was 81·90 lakhs. The amount advertised for sale next week is again 50 lakhs. After the above sales a small lot of extras were allotted at 1s. 4 1/16. bills and 1s. 4 1/16d. Transfers (20 lakh and 1 lakh respectively). To-day's message advises 30 lakh bills and 1 lakh transfers being at the Mint rates.

The mail of the 8th instant brings £320,000 silver and £150,000 gold for Bombay and the following Council Bills :—

Calcutta	Rs.	9,90,000
Bombay	„	15,50,000
Madras	„	32,40,000
Total...	Rs.	57,80,000

The mail of the 15th March brings £180,000 silver and £120,000 gold for Bombay and £330,000 silver and £50,000 gold for Calcutta and the following Council Bills :

Calcutta ...	Rs.	6,40,000
Bombay	„	14,60,000
Madras	„	4,40,000
Total...	Rs.	25,40,000

The mail of the 22nd March brings £480,000 silver and £120,000 gold for Bombay, and the following Council Bills :—

Calcutta	Rs.	7,50,000
Bombay	„	10,10,000
Madras	„	6,50,000
Total...	Rs.	24,10,000

Money :—
Money market firm. Borrowers at 7 per cent for two months.

Exchange :—
The Market remains steady to firm. In the morning the general quotation for telegraphic transfers was 1s. 4 1/32d. but later in the day 1s. 4 1/16d. T. T. was practicable in two or three quarters and merchants bought moderately for current requirements. There was some demand for T. T. April-May delivery but the rates offered compared very unfavourably with ready quotations and only a trifling business was done. The credit rate is steady at 1s. 4 1/32d. 3 months' sight with few bills offering. Bills can be placed at 1s. 4 1/32d. 3 months' sight for the last mail in April. Far Eastern rates are inclined to be weak following the steady fall in Silver.

We quote :—

T. T. on London	1s. 4	½d to 4
Demand Draft	1s. 4	1/32d. to 4 1/16
Credits— 3 months' sight ...	1s. 4	1/32d.
Do. 6 months' sight ...	1s. 4	3/32d.
Do. 3 months' sight—Francs	173	
Do. 3 months' sight—Marks	140¾	
Hongkong—30 days' sight ...	157	
Yokohama—30 days' sight ...	148½	
Shanghai—30 days' sight ...	213½	

Government Paper :—
The market opened with buyers at 97 1/16 for cash and settlement. In the early part of the day there were some buyers and quotations became 97⅛ for ready and forward. Later on their were a good many sellers and a moderate business was done the market ultimately closing with buyers at 97 1/16. Calcutta rates show no improvement their quotations being 97⅛ for ready and 97⅛ for delivery forward in a month.

We quote :—

Cash	97	3	Buyers.
1st Settlement ...	97	3	„

Bullion :—
Bar Silver in London improved slightly yesterday ready and forward bars being up 1/16 at 30 1/32 and 30¼ for two months delivery respectively. The New York rate improved ⅛ to 66⅜. In our local market rates also showed an improvement. At opening ready bars were quoted at 78 1/16 ex-duty and on moderate buying closed at 78 1/16. Forward rates also advanced and close as under. Bar gold is unchanged. We quote :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
English Bar Gold	24	2	0
Australian Bar Gold	24	1	0
Bombay Bar Gold	24	0	0
English Shield Sovereigns ...	15	0	0
English Dragon Sovereigns ...	15	0	0
Silver *ex* Duty—Ready ...	78	9	0
Ditto 1st Settlement ...	78	10	0
Ditto 2nd Settlement ...	78	11	0

COTTON STATISTICS.

	Bales 1906-07.	Bales. 1905-06	Bales Difference
Receipts for the week..	1,22,808	57,007	+65,801
Receipts from 1st October to 14th Mar	1,749,490	1,761,875	—12,385
Shipments for the week—			
Europe	25,345	9,374	+15,971
China	13,191	38,545	—25,354
Japan			
Coast Ports ...			
Total ...	38,536	47,919	—9,383
Total Shipments from 1st Oct. to 7th Mar...			
Europe	538,867	488,718	+50,149
China	24,422	10,118	+14,304
Japan	290,771	273,733	+17,038
Coast Ports ...	30,965	15,837	+15,068
Total ...	884,965	788,406	+ 93,559
Afloat in harbour—			
Europe... ...	26,023	8,278	+17,745
China	49,585	1,200	+48,385
Japan			
Coast Ports ...			

Total Exports from Bombay by G. I. P. Ry. from 1st October to 9th February 1907 6,137 bales.
Total Exports from Bombay by B. B. & C. I. Ry. from 1st October to 31st December 1906 6,615 bales.

RECEIPTS OF COTTON INTO BOMBAY.

	Total for week.	Total since 1st Oct. 1906.	Total same time last year
Khandeish	16,871	246,395	363,739
Central India ...	8,375	62,100	78,016
Barsee and Nugger ...	8,567	128,541	90,147
Berars... ...	14,775	360,118	395,792
Central Provinces ...	15,210	242,650	264,395
Total Comras...	63,798	1,039,804	1,192,089
Dhollera	12,413	116,058	70,459
Broach	22,935	94,020	137,661
Compta and Dharwar.	1,762	20,851	19,185
Westerns	62	6,348	4,572
Bengals, N.-W. P. ...	16,406	401,402	277,984
Bengals, Rajputana...	4,256	42,649	18,998
Sind	nil	12,320	27,522
Persian	59	1,148	1,137
American	814	13,236	9,292
Egyptian	174	862	1,060
Other Sorts	219	792	1,916
Totals...	122,893	1,749,490	1,761,875

EXPORTS.

COTTON.

MARKET REPORT :—

Yesterday the final ginners report of the American Census Bureau was received here, giving the total quantity ginned at 13,291,000 Commercial bales. Last year, on the same date, the total quantity ginned was given at 10,697,000 bales, the crop turning out 11,300,000 bales. In 1905 the Census Bureau figures were 13,584,000 bales ginned, the crop being in that year 13,794,000 bales. Since the last ginner's report 1,100,000 bales have been ginned, against 800,000 bales in 1905, the big crop year. We think we shall not be far out in putting the ultimate total of this Season's crop at 13,750,000 bales, while there is a possibility of it exceeding the total of the 1904-05 crop.

In spite of some slight fluctuations the tendency of the Home markets had been easier during the week, and up to yesterday Spot cotton in New York had given way 20 points, while futures were 18 to 19 points lower. To-day, however, there is a sharp reaction spot having recovered 10 points, and futures being 22 and 19 points higher.

New crop planting has commenced and, at the present level of prices, it may be taken for granted that farmers will put every inch of land they can under cotton.

The following table gives the position of the Home markets as shown by the telegrams received here last Friday morning and to-day.

LIVERPOOL.	Last week.	This week.	Difference.
Spot ...	6·00	5·98	—·02
Arrivals March.-Apl...	5·69	5·62	—·07
Do. June-July	5·68	5·61	—·07
NEW YORK.			
Spot ...	11·20	11·10	—·10
Futures March ...	9·51	9·55	+·04
Do. July ...	9·69	9·69	unchgd
NEW ORLEANS.			
Spot ...	10⅞	10½	—⅛
Futures May...	10·39	10·39	+·01
Do. July...	10·58	10·49	—·09

During the past week the local market has been chiefly occupied in settlements and deliveries of March contracts. A large short interest existed, and dealers have been covering or settling, the market in consequence keeping very steady. Broach as usual this month has held special interest, and the absence of delivery orders against good Broach contracts has materially strengthened the position. The crop of Broach this season is of excellent quality, and dealers have found difficulty in finding cotton for tender against " good " contracts. Reports are current that D/Os will yet come on the market, but so far, there is little to encourage hopes in this direction. The settlement is practically at hand, and unless large tenders are made, we see little chance of prices falling before the 25th. At present things point to the settlement rate for 'good' being in the neighbourhood of Rs. 253 to Rs. 255. After the settlement we look for a sharp decline all round, as the market lately has been unduly inflated.

A fair business has been done by shippers in spot cotton. High class Oomras and Bengals, as also ready Broach have been in good demand, while Muttia and Khandeish have also found buyers. Mills are holding back, having little inducement at present to stock, but weaving mills have paid good prices for extra-stapled lots. Coomptas are arriving in small quantities, and find quick sale.

Arrivals have been large, far exceeding those of last year at the same time, and the difference in receipts into Bombay, up-to-date, between this year and last year, is now only 12,000 bales.

QUOTATIONS :—

	Rs.	Delivery
Fine M. G. Broach ...	268/9	March
Fine „ ...	280	April
Good „ ...	281¼	March
Fine „ Nagpur Kampti ...	319/20	do.
Fine „ Damangaum Fuligson ...	307	do.
Fine „ Khangaum Akola ...	301/2	do.
Fine „ Amraoti ...	301/2	do.
Fine „ Muttia ...	189	do.
F. G. „ Khandeish ...	178	do.
Fine „ Khandeish ...	184	do.
Fine „ Bongais ...	174	do.
F.G.H.G. Bengals ...	155	do.
Good Westerns ...	232	May
Good Saw Ginned Dharwar ...	244	do.

Liverpool Openers—

Opening tone	Firm		
Estimated Sales	10,000	bales.	
Total Imports	29,000	„	

FUTURE DELIVERY PRICES—

Mar.-Apl.	Apl.-May.	May-June.	June-July	July-Aug
5·65	5·65	5·65	5·64	5·64
		+·03		
Aug.-Sept.	Sept.-Oct.	Oct.-Nov.	Nov.-Dec.	
5·63	5·60	5·58	5·57	
		+·02		

The following are the official quotations of the Bombay Cotton Trade Association Limited, to-day.

	Fine.	F-G	Goods.	Delivery.
Bengal, H. G. (Ry. terms) ...	166	156	...	Ready and
	163	154	..	28th March
Bengals, M. G (Ry terms) ...	176	164	..	Ready and
S. Punjab M G ...	174	163	..	25th March
Oomrawattee (descriptions) M-G	203	195	...	Ready and
	201	193	..	28th March
Khandeish (M-G) ...	...	178	..	Ready and
	185	177	..	25th March
Rajputan (H-G) ...	173	166	...	Ready 25th Mar
Khangaum, fair staple (M-G) ...	203	195	...	Ready and
Akola M.G. ...	201	193	..	25th March
Yeotmal („ G.) ...	215	207	..	Ready 25th Mar
Dhamangaum & Poolgaum M-G	208	200	...	Ready 25th Mar
Nagpur Kamptee (M-G) ...	222	214	...	Ready and
	220	212	..	25th March
Broach (M.G.) ...	259	...	245	Ready and
	247	...	...	25th March
Muttia (M. G.) ...	186	174	...	28th March
Bhownagar (M. G.) ...	226	216	..	25th May
Do. (H. G.) ...	220	210	...	do
Sawginned Dharwar ...	...	...	245	do
Westerns ...	..	..	231	do

RECEIPTS.

The following are the receipts of Produce into Bombay during the week :—

Wheat	75,747	cwts
Linseed	86,336	„
Rapeseed	106,570	„
Gingellyseed	56,245	„
Poppyseed	2,530	„
Groundnuts	10,809	„
Castorseed	47,637	„
Rice..	284,297	„
Myrabollams	29,060	„
Cottonseed	250,635	„
Mowrasseed	311	„
Gram	13,864	„
Joowar...	43,023	„
Maize	46	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

Linseed :—
The tone of the market has been easier during the past week and prices have given way 2 to 3 annas per cwt. The demand has slackened and at the close we quote as under :—

Ready ...	Rs.	7 6 6
Apl-May ...	„	7 11 0

Rapeseed—
Owing to the decline in the Home markets the, market for Rapeseed has been quieter, but at present quotations a moderate business is being done. Reports of extensive damage to the crop appear to have been exaggerated. Closing prices are :—

Brown Cawnpore April-May	Rs.	7 9 0
Yellow Cawnpore April-May	„	8 7 0
„ Guzerat „ „	„	7 9 0

Gingellyseed :—
The market has ruled quiet but steady, with a small business only. We close at the following prices with little doing.

Bold White	85 per cent ...	Rs.	52 8 0
„	75 do. ...	„	50 8 0
„	50 do. ...	„	48 8 0
Black Kutni	...	„	44 0 0
Yellow Hingunghat	...	„	55 0 0

CASTORSEED :—
Has been steady at Rs. 37 for ready throughout the week with a fair enquiry.

COTTONSEED :—
Steady Rs. 20 to Rs. 20-8.

POPPYSEED :—
Firm. Receipts almost nil. For forward delivery April-May, prices are easier at Rs. 9-8.

GROUNDNUTS :—
Very little doing. At the close the rate Rs. 43.

WHEAT :—
Crop prospects are excellent. Locally there is little doing by shippers or mills, and the market continues quiet.

White Delhi	... Rs.	4	7 0
White Karachi	... „	4	6 0
White Pessi	... „	4	6 0

IMPORTS.

PIECE GOODS.

WHITE GOODS.—The market is not yet showing any signs of change for the better. Dealers are selling but little, and prices remain steady. There is some enquiry for forward business, but Manchester keeps very firm and dealers cannot pay the prices asked.

GREY GOODS.—The market is dull owing to the absence of demand from up-country where plague is on the increase. This is causing much anxiety here. Although prices at present are steady here any downward move in cotton may probably cause weakness in prices.

PRINTS AND DYED GOODS.—The market this week is very dull owing to the absence of demand from Delhi and Cawnpore where plague is raging. Dealers feel anxious about their stocks and are consequently buying little. White Fancies are still selling well though further buying is not induced thereby owing to the abnormal values of Egyptian yarns.

TURKEY RED PLAIN GOODS.—The market here remains unchanged but the Home markets keep very firm notwithstanding the lower rates for cotton. The demand is improving slightly and business is doing to a small extent.

TURKEY RED PRINTED GOODS.—Owing to the prevalence of plague in the up-country Markets the demand here has not yet improved and there is no inducement to buyers to go in freely for fresh business.

DHOOTIES.—We have no change to report in this market. A small business is being done. The Home market continues firm.

METALS.

COPPER has been somewhat quieter during the week owing to the recent advance in Rupee rates, which has checked the demand. At the same time the general prevalence of plague is a great hindrance to business. The rupee rate may be called about Rs. 93, and the sterling price about £118/10, though the Home rate is much higher.

YELLOW METAL is also quiet owing to less demand, but the Rupee price is unchanged. The sterling rate here being lower than the Home value, no business is practicable.

COALS.

The Market has been very quiet with little business doing in retail sales. Buyers although offering for forward shipments do not care to pay sellers' prices which at the moment are prohibitive. We quote as follows :—

* Davison's West Hartly	... Rs.	17/8	per ton.
* Cardiff...	... „	22	„
South Yorkshire ...	... „	17/8	„
Watson's Hartly ...	... „	17/4	„
Derberghur Bengal ...	... „	15/12	„
Subpaid...	... „	15/8	„
Lawrie's Derberghur ...	... „	15/12	„
Hielger's Standard ...	... „	15/0	„
Jardine	... „	15/8	„

PETROLEUM.

The market continues steady and the following are the ruling rates for the undermentioned brands—

	Per pair.
Russian Rising Sun brand oil in tins...Rs.	3 10 0
	Per 8 gallons.
„ „ „ „ „ loose. Rs.	3 0 0
	Per pair.
Burmah Swan brand oil in tins ..... „	3 6 0
	Per 8 gallons.
„ „ „ „ loose ... Rs.	2 12 0
	Per case
Anchor brand in cases ... ... „	4 14 0
Silver light oil 150° in cases ... „	5 2 0

FREIGHTS.

The market has ruled fairly steady during the week, but the tendency has been for lower rates. Business has been done for both April and May at the undermentioned prices-viz :

Antwerp	14s. 3d. to 15s.
Dunkirk	14s. 6d. to 15s.
Hamburg	16s. to 16s. 6d.
Genoa	15s. to 16s.
Marseilles	14s. 6d. to 15s.

For June, business has also been done at 10s. 6d. for Antwerp and Dunkirk.

The following fixtures are reported :—
S. S. "Harpenley," lump sum £6,800 to p. p. April loading.
S. S. "Caithness," lump sum £5,200 to p.-p. March-April.
S. S. "Rheinfels," to Hamberg March-April at 16 March 15s. 6d. April.

SHARES.

The market is dull and mill shares have continued to decline in price. Bank of Bombay shares are reported to have changed hands at Rs. 13,62½ and Rs. 1,365 during the week and at the close they are quiet at the former rate. A lot of Bank of India Limited shares was placed at Rs. 55 during the earlier part of the week but at the close they have declined to Rs. 54. In Railway companies Tapti Valleys have improved to Rs. 467½ C. D. Ahmedabad Prantej have changed hands at Rs. 530 X. D. Amritsar Pattys are Steady at Rs. 105. In Press Companies, Mofussils are steady at Rs. 590. New Berars have changed hands at Rs. 525 and Indian Cotton at Rs. 137½. Volkarts are steady at Rs. 1,080, In Miscellaneous Companies Badham Piles have changed hands at Rs. 13½. Bombay Burmahs have improved to Rs. 3,650 X.D. Oriental Government Security Life A. Companies' shares have changed hands at Rs. 150. Port Cannings have improved to Rs. 442½. Treachers have improved to Rs. 590. Mill shares are quiet : Central Indias have declined to Rs. 1,915; Swadeshis to Rs. 1,450. Connoughts have changed hands at Rs. 490 X.B. Colaba Land have ruled at and about Rs. 965. Davids after touching Rs. 347½ have improved to Rs. 365. Empress are quiet at 450 C. D. Crescents at Rs. 102½ a good lot of Jamsheds was placed at Rs. 167½. Kohinoors have ruled at and about Rs. 730, Manekji Petits after touching 3225 have again advanced to Rs. 3315 at which rate they close. Morarjis have changed hands at Rs 2690 C. D, Standards have declined to Rs. 1,175, Union mill shares have changed hands at Rs. 175. Centuries have declined to Rs. 1,665. Phoenix have changed hands at 100. New City of Bombay at Rs. 520 X. D.: the rest are unchanged and quiet at previous quotations.

THE MUSSOORIE SEASON.

Influx of Visitors.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LUCKNOW, MARCH 22.

The Mussoorie Polo Tournamant will commence on May 6th and the Mussoorie Races will take place on May 16th and May 18th.

The influx of visitors to this station is commencing despite the inclement weather.

PASSENGERS FOR S.S. AFRICA.

The following passengers arrived here by the Austrian Lloyd's S.S. Africa from Trieste and Venice yesterday evening.—

Mr O. Anton, Sister Anna, Mr Benda, Sister Bertha Revd Croswaite, Sister Guiseppine, Mrs Crawoski and 2 children, Capt Illius Mrs Keller and Infant, Miss Kabraji Mr and Mrs Lalkaka, Mr and Mrs Labauti and 2 children, Revd Lansdale, Mr Mirze, Sister Maria, Mrs Murphu, Miss Nixon, Mr Sanjana, Major and Mrs Vandeleur and child, Mr Verhorst, Mr Wurthle.

POISONED WOUNDS.

Itching Skin Disease Caught at Work—Cured by Zam-Buk.

Miss Christina Campbell, of 5, Tennant Street, Renfrew, a bright Scottish lassie of sixteen summers, said to a "paisley Observer" reporter:—

"About the back end of last year I went to learn the polishing trade, and I had not been at it long when my hands broke out into a rash of pimples. I suppose the chemicals had poisoned my skin. The affection spread, and my hands and arms had, for a time, the appearance of rough sandpaper. They were intolerably itchy, and I applied all kinds of ointments and lotions, but these had only the effect of increasing the irritation, without remedying the trouble in the least. After a time the pimples began to discharge and the disorder spread to my face, my lips and nose becoming affected in the same manner. The suppurating pimples developed into sores; I fell sick and could eat nothing, and at last had to keep to my bed. The sores attacked my eyelids, binding them so fast that I could not open my eyes. For four days I was totally blind, and, to add to my suffering, a large boil broke out on my arm. It was then that my mother read about Zam-Buk, and we anointed all the sore parts with the balm. The soothing effect was wonderful, and after one or two applications of Zam-Buk, my eyelids unbound, and I could see again. Then the boil on my arm broke; and from then onward, my improvement was steady and sure. In a few days all the sores, even the big one on my arm healed up, and the unhealthy skin scaled off in a sort of scurf, leaving my skin as smooth and fresh as ever. It is now ten months since I was cured by Zam-Buk, so I may safely say that my recovery is permanent."

Keep Zam-Buk handy for injuries and skin diseases. Zam-Buk ensures healing by first intention, and should be every home's first-aid. Price Re. 1/-and Rs. 2/4 per box.

FREE SAMPLE COUPON.

Cut out this coupon and forward it together with one anna stamp to the Zam-Buk Co.'s Head Indian Depot, 9, Dalhousie Square, Calcutta, to obtain a dainty free sample box of Zam-Buk.

Write address clearly.

"Bombay Gazette," 23rd March, 1907.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

THE Charge for Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS, and MEMORIAM NOTICES which must be authenticated by the name and address of the senders, is Re. 2 for six lines or less, and 8 as. for every additional line. CASH strictly in ADVANCE.

EUROPE.

BIRTHS.

BARNARD—Feb. 28, at 109 Woodstock Road, Oxford, the wife of Major Andrew E. Barnard, 30th Lancers (Gordon's Horse), Indian Army of a daughter.
FAYRER—Feb. 25, at 228 Hainhalt Road, Leytonstone the wife of Capt. F. D. S. Fayrer, Indian Medical Service, of a son.
GRAY—Februsay 2, at the Villa Nathalie, St. Servan, France, the wife of Henry Gray, Bank of Bengal, of a son.
ROGERS—March 4, at Leicester, wife of Conductor T. Roger, Indian Supply and Transport Corps, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

CHAMBERLIN—BRERETON—March 4, at Holy Saviour's Church, Tynemouth, Richard J. Chamberlin, son of Major and Mrs. A. B. Chamberlin, R. A., of Chiswick, W., to Olem. Hilton Brereton, daughter of the late Capt. Brereton.
CURRIE—HEWKE—Jan. 31, at St. Andrew's, Ashley Place, S.W., John Gumbleton Currie, son of Col. H. O. Currie, to Hilda Mary, daughter of H. W. G. Hewke, Esq.
DICKSON—UPSDALE—Feb. 28, at Chelsham Church, Surrey, Henry Bertram' son of the late Major-Gen. E. J. Dickson J. P. (late 79th and 91st Highlanders,) to Martha Pattle, daughter of John Upsdale, Esq.
JOHNSON—REID—Feb. 26, at Jesmond Presbyterian Church. Bardoa Terrace, Newcastle. Capt. John Tyrer Johnston to Mary Hence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis M. Reid, and niece of Col. James Burns.
MOSHENNY—BUCKLEY—Feb. 27, at the Service Church, London, Joseph Thomas, son of Surr.-Major McMenehy, M. D., J. P. late of the 5th Dragoon Guards, to Katherine Josepaine Kitty, daughter of the late Fleet-Surg. Buckley, R. N.
MORRL—MASTERS—March 6, at Llantrisant Church, Edward Clement, son of the late Sir Thomas Morel, of St. Andrews House, Dynas Powis, to Gladys Irene, daughter of Mr. T. J. Masters.

DEATH.

BEST—March 3, at Overton Meads, Eastbourne, Capt. Henry Compton Best R. N., aged 69.
GOADBY—March 4, at Shaldbarn, near Clitheroe, Major Samuel Hill Goadby, late Army Educational Dept., aged 76.
GRAY—At the Villa Nathalie, St. Servan, France, on the 17th February, 1927, Evelina, Clara, wife of Henry Gray, Bank of Bengal. Pleura pneumonia.
HOZIER—Feb. 28, at Panama, Col. Sir Henry Hozier, K. C. B., for many years Secretary of Lloyd's, aged 68.
KIRKNESS—March 2, at the Haven, Falmouth, William Kirkness, elder surviving son of the late J. L. Kirkness, surgeon, Truro, and formerly of P. and O. service.
KITCHENER—Feb. 24, at Lucerne, Arthur Buck, son of the late Col. Kitchener, 13th, Dragoons.
LOGAN—March 2, at 19 Rothesay Place, Edinburgh, Sir Charles Bowman Logan, LL.D., Writer to the Signet, aged 69.
PLUERETT—Feb. 28, in Paris, in Right Hon. Sir Francis Plunkett, G.C.B., late in Majesty's Ambassador in Vienn, aged 73.
PRATT—Feb. 27, at Le Pecq, France, Hodgson Pratt, formerly of the Bengal Civil Service, aged 83.
ROUTH—March 3, at Royal Crescent, Cheltenham, Elizabeth M. Routh, widow of the late Commy. Gen. R. Routh, C.B.
TYRRELL——At 15 Shamrock Street, Maryfield, Dundee, on the 18th instant, William Tyrrell, late Manager, B. I. S. N. Co.'s Docks, Hawah. By Cable.
WIGAN—Mar 2, Sir Frederick Wigan, Bart., aged 79.
WYLLY—Feb. 21, in Paris, Harry Prendergast, late deputy-commissioner of Angul. Orissa. India, son of the late Aylmer Wylly, 8th Bengal Cav., aged 63.

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

PAXTON—March 14, at Allahabad, the wife of Evelyn C. M. Paxton, of a son.
STAINFORTH—March 15, at Bannu, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel L. C. H. Stainforth, 31st Sikhs (P.F.), of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

WALKER—MOLESWORTH—Feb. 23, at the Cathedral, Melbourne, by the Archbishop of Melbourne, assisted by the Bishop of Wangaratta, Rt. Lt.-Col. W. G. Walker, V.C., 4th Goorkha Rifles, oldest son of the late Deputy Surgn.-Genl. and Mrs. Walker, to Margaret Alice Elaine, third daughter of Judge and Mrs. Hickman Molesworth, of Eltington, Melbourne.

DEATHS.

HUGHES—March 17, at St. Martha's Hospital, Bangalore, Charlotte, the dearly beloved wife of A. C. Hughes, of Mysore, aged 45 years.
SINGLAIR—March 17, at "Lansdowne," Ootacamund, Nilgiris, Mary Sinclair, wife of the late Henry George Sinclair and daughter of the late Colonel Charles William Godfrey, aged 89 Sind Punjab and Daily Railway age 78 years, 1 month and 17 days.

BOMBAY.

DEATH.

NOVIS—March 17, at Karachi, at "Bhawalpur House," the residence of her son, Sarab, relict of the late James H. Novis, late Deeply regretted.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 41m.; Sun sets, 6h. 50m.; High water, 4-27m., 7-23a.; Low water, 11-39m.
Bombay Extra Races.
Royal Bombay Yacht Club Races.
Burhanpur Tapti Mill Meeting, 10 Forbes Street, 4 p. m.
Fitzgerald Brothers' Circus.
Elysium Skating Rink.

TO-MORROW.

Sun rises, 6h. 40m.; Sun sets, 6h. 50m.; High water, 6-6m., 8-57a

NOTE

The Name

THE NEW EGERTON WOOLLEN MILLS COMPANY, LD.

The only manufacturers of Pure Wool Goods in the Punjab.

NOTE

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(36 Miles North East of Amritsar)

The only address for "Dhariwal Pure Wool Materials"!

Before you order your clothes for the coming season you should send for our Samples no matter whether you are going Home or to the Hills or are compelled to stay down in the heat there is nothing better than Pure Wool as a covering, and no other material passes off excessive perspiration in such a comfortable manner. Send for Samples to the Manager, Dept. 4.

THE NEW EGERTON WOOLLEN MILLS CO., LD.

DHARIWAL, PUNJAB.

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One of the Oldest and Wealthiest Accident Companies.

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MESSRS. KING KING & CO.,

BOMBAY.

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JEWELLERS,

HAVE REMOVED

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LADIES' HATS.

WE have so many different Shapes and Shades and Makes, and so many Prices from the very lowest. And again, we can match any shade of dress material from our Stock of Straws, and there is one Shape that will first suit your face. The old days when you had to make your face suit the shape are over so far as we are concerned.

MESDAMES CLARENCE,

Dressmakers and Milliners,

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ICE CREAM FREEZERS.

UP-TO-DATE in design, Materials and Workmanship. Satisfactory results in practical use. Makes ICE-CREAM in Four Minutes. Sizes from 1 to 16 qts.

ICE BOXES AND REFRIGERATORS

of Improved Styles.

STOVE DEPOT.

17, CHURCH GATE STREET, FORT

BOMBAY.

ENTERIC.

PLAGUE. CHOLERA. DYSENTERY.

ALONG WITH

ACCIDENTS FROM ALL ORDINARY SPORTS

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NORWICH & LONDON ACCIDENT INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LD.

Premium Rs. 90 Yearly for Rs. 15,000 Policy.

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CARD

W. J. BROOKE,

GENERAL SURVEYOR, APPRAISER, & ADJUSTER

of claims of all kinds,

25 years' experience in Cotton and Produce.

38, CHURCHGATE BUILDINGS,

Church Gate Street, Fort.

WATCH & COMPASS COMBINED.

A THOROUGHLY RELIABLE WATCH AND ACCURATE COMPASS.

Invaluable to Military, Forest and P. W. Officers, Shikaris, &c.

To introduce this useful innovation we propose to offer the first consignment at the exceptionally low price of Rs. 7 each. After these are exhausted the price will be Rs 35.

Description:

Nickel Crystal face keyless lever, compensated balance, bold dial, sunk second circle. Carefully adjusted and timed.

The Compass at the back of Watch in set flush with case and is protected by a strong glass 1 inch in diameter. This enables movements of needle to be observed without opening Watch.

GENERAL CATALOGUE ON APPLICATION.

MARCKS & CO. Ltd.,

The Premier Jewellers of Western India, BOMBAY AND POONA.

WHY NOT GET RID

OF THAT

OLD PIANO

Which has seen its best days and is now rather a source of annoyance than of pleasure?

ROSE & CO.,

GIVE THE BEST VALUE

for such an instrument, in exchange for a Good Piano which will satisfy your artistic requirements, and win. your approval for absolute reliability.

S. ROSE & Co, have the best selection of Pianos in India, and supply on special terms for Cash, for Hire, or on the Easy Payment System.

FORT, BOMBAY.

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PETROL.

SHELL BRAND

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ASIATIC PETROLEUM COMPANY,

AGENTS:

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Full Range of Samples, with prices on application.

Carriage paid on orders of Rs. 10 and upwards Bombay.

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is earnestly solicited. We do not wish our visitors to feel that an inspection involves the obligation of purchasing. We deem it a privilege to show our publications, which comprehend all branches of Art—Sacred, Historical, Landscapes, Battle pictures, and Fancy Subjects; the Old Masters as well as Modern Painters. It would be a pleasure for us to have

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"BLACK & WHITE"

SCOTCH WHISKY

Sold Everywhere.

PUNKAH COOLY DOOMED.

The JOST FAN, Model 1907, worked by a small oil lamp, has come to stay; nearly 2,000 already sold because they are simple, reliable, portable, durable, and only cost ONE ANNA to work for 24 hours.

List of references and particulars post free on application to

C. JOST & CO.,

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HORNBY ROAD, BOMBAY.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * All communications of a literary character should be addressed to THE EDITOR, and all communications regarding Advertisements and Business matters generally should be addressed to the GENERAL MANAGER. Communications should not be addressed to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1907.

THE JAPANESE COEFFICIENT.

Commenting a few days since on that most interesting of recent works of travel and observation, "Signs and Portents in the Far East," we remarked that the sinister trend of affairs in China was the most distressing feature of the situation in the East. Seeing, however, that Japan is now so much mixed up with China, and that it is Japan's example which China is imitating in her attempt to become self-supporting and self reforming, a survey of the Far Eastern problem can hardly be called complete without some examination of the present attitude, the aims and the future possibilities of Japan. However, the Chinese reform movement may expand it is probable, nay certain, that owing to the start she has got and the superior qualities of her character Japan will remain ahead. At present China does not seek regeneration for its own sake, nor indeed does any but a small section of reformers seek more than the application of modern methods to considerations of defence and commerce. But when the ruling spirits of Japan determined on transforming a feudal into a modern State they were actuated by whole-hearted motives and saw deep into the future; they were not inspired by mere hostility to foreigners, because they had not suffered as China has at the hands of foreigners. Consequently they entrusted themselves with a remarkable singleness of purpose to the teaching of the West and grafted on to their ancient institutions the best products of the West in statecraft as in the departments of industry and national defence. They were not too proud to engage the services of English engineers, naval instructors and professors, and being a highly capable and adaptable people they at length reached a stage when they felt themselves able to advance by their own effort along the lines thus laid down by the best representatives of Western civilisation. Thus has Japan come into line with the greatest Powers of the day and has been able to make a successful bid for the military, naval and commercial supremacy of the East. China still lags behind, and naturally distrustful of the foreigner, refuses to remodel her institutions in accordance with modern requirements. She relies rather upon the services of Japanese to reorganise her armaments and teach her commercial and industrial efficiency. In this manner will China become the greatest market for Japanese trade and thereby assist the island Power to further consolidate her position of supremacy in the Eastern seas. The result of the completeness and zeal which Japan brought to the task of her own regeneration may be seen, not merely in her victory over Russia, but in the multifarious industrial activity of her people. The cotton mills of Osaka, the dockyards of Kobe and the copper mines of Nikko, all boast of the most modern plant and are all managed and manned by Japanese themselves. Japanese coal finds its way along the coasts to Singapore and is much superior to Bengal coal. Extensive electric installations driven by water power are in operation in almost every city in Japan. Even villages are beginning to employ electric plant and electric tramways are laid in all directions along the country roads. The extension of machinery annually releases more labourers and Japanese are pouring into China, Manchuria and Korea. Unfortunately Japanese commercial morality is not above reproach: it is not in conformity with western standards and compares badly with Chinese commercial honesty. The outcome of this phenomenal activity is that Europeans are being more and more pushed into the background in Japan herself; heavy customs duties (in many cases as much as 50 per cent. ad valorem) and a persistent attempt on the part of the Government to assist the native as against all competitors have contributed to make the position of the foreign merchant in Japan far from hopeful. As Japan is already in possession of a powerful merchant marine her position as the Britain of the East would seem to be doubly sure; in fact her commercial greatness may well live longer than that of her Western ally, who would do wisely to adopt something in the nature of the Japanese protective system.

When the blood is flowing freely about the heart it circulates best in the extremities. In the history of the nations the greatest expansion synchronises with the greatest activity as home. The vastest expansion of Britain took place at the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th centuries, when the industrial revolution was taking effect and the great manufacturing industries of the country were arising by the newly applied agency of steam. Similarly the Japanese at the very moment that their engines are humming their fastest are enmeshing the whole East in their commercial enterprise and at the same time undertaking the administration of new dominions. We have already adverted to Chinese welcome of Japanese enterprize and instruction. Japanese settlement sexist in every open Chinese port. Japanese shopkeepers, merchants and bankers are to be found in every considerable Chinese town and we find Japanese steamers are to be seen wherever there is water to float in and cargo to carry at a profit. In Manchuria which, be it noted, still remains part of the Chinese Empire, the Japanese have distanced all competitors, for as was only natural their men of business were given a good start during the period of occupation which followed on the war. During 1906, Manchuria was closed to all foreigners whilst Japanese were pouring in and out freely. By the Treaty of Portsmouth Japan like Russia, undertook to restore Manchuria, with the exception of the Liaotung Peninsula, to the administration of China. But to render valuable the lease of the peninsula with its priceless harbour the Japanese retained in their hands the eastern portion of the Manchurian railway system "together with all the right, privileges and properties appertaining therete in that region, as well as all the coal mines belonging to, or worked for the benefit of the railway." "The Mukden coal field comes amongst these concessions and the value of its deposits is enormous, one seam being credibly affirmed to be 120 feet thick and the quality of the mineral as good as the Welsh product. The vast unexploited mineral wealth of Manchuria which lies outside these concessions will also fall very largely to the share of Japan in combination with the nominal owner—China. We may confidently expect then that such an increase of riches awaits the nation that the Treasury will soon clear itself of all embarrassment caused by the war.

As another field of industrial enterprise there is the rich country of Korea for which Japan has made herself responsible. This is her weakest spot, for she has not yet succeeded in conciliating the Koreans. Until 1894 Korea was virtually an absolutist monarchy acknowledging the suzerainty of China, but with the Chino-Japanese war the Japanese succeeded to the suzerainty of the country. The corrupt administration has been very considerably reformed, but although the position of Japan in Korea has been greatly strengthened by her recent victory over Russia, the inhabitants have not yet accommodated themselves to her rule. Japan has undertaken to maintain the "welfare and dignity of the Imperial House of Korea." Marquis Ito, the ablest statesman that Japan has yet produced, is at present acting as adviser to the Korean Government, but while the Korean Emperor and his ministers nominally continue to rule, practically the Japanese control everything and exercise all real authority. The position of the Japanese in Korea is almost identical to that of the British in Egypt, the rulers are far more disliked in Korea than in Egypt. Certainly the Japanese have treated the Koreans in a very high-handed way: assaults by the lower orders of Japanese are all too frequent and the memory of their Empress's murder by members of the Japanese party fourteen years ago has not yet been eradicated from the minds of the Koreans. But improvement is confidently expected from Marquis Ito's administration, and the Koreans may now wake up to share in the great natural wealth of their country which the Japanese are beginning to exploit. The Japanese from their superior intelligence and energy will reap the lion's share of the gold and mineral wealth of Korea and European merchants and mining engineers already complain that their operations are constantly hampered by the authorities contrary to express promises of equal facilities for all. This again shows that the Japanese at the risk of becoming unpopular with Europe are determined to obtain and hold the commercial mastery of the East. Supremacy in war has led to the aquisition of supremacy in the arts of peace.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL, OR A RAILWAY FERRY.

THE Editor of the *Nineteenth Century*, General Maurice, is on the war path again. We all remember his valiant opposition to the Channel Tunnel Project, when it was first launched twenty-five years ago and seemed to have a fair chance of success. In his Review he published a very influentially signed protest against the scheme, and followed it up with weighty artioles by leading men condemning it. This was issued in the form of a pamphlet in 1883 and did much to defeat the design of the projectors of the Tunnel. A Parliamentary Committee was appointed, under the presidency of the late Sir Archibald Alison to examine all sides of the subject, and with its adverse report the project ended in smoke. But it had not got its final *quietus*, and the promoters only waited till they got a fresh opportunity to bring forward their pet project again before the public. They had to wait long, for the relations between England and France were far from satisfactory and such as would not allow of the project to connect the two countries in friendly union by means of the rail under the sea, to be fairly discussed. But recently we have seen an improvement, and the *entente cordiale* has been established. The first fruits of this *entente* have been to revive the tunnel project with all its manifold discussions from various points of view. If these military and other aspects of the project are allowed to proceed unchecked, it is feared the result will be anything but satisfactory to the well-wishers of the *entente* among both nations, and the sooner they are stopped the better. With a view to this end Sir James Knowles has reprinted the pamphlet which had so much effect in 1883, and publishes some convincing articles from eminent authorities in his Review. No useful purpose it is argued would be gained by this project of a Tunnel, and the risk of boring a hole in our present impregnable sea frontier—for that is what the project amounts to finally—would be immense. This scheme of un-islanding England it is urged would gratuitously throw away all the vast advantage that it has enjoyed through all history, would sacrifice the really useful and splendid isolation with which we are endowed by nature, and involve us in Continental strife and trouble. That is the theory though not ours. "What would Germany not give for twenty miles of water between her and France," was the very wise and significant remark made by the late Empress Frederick—than whom few could be better aware of the full meaning of this wish for Germany—to Sir James when the project was mentioned to her.

But the question at once suggests itself, is there no alternative to a Tunnel, to unite the two countries for facility of communication? The answer is that modern science is not so poor as furnish an alternative, and a far simpler to be unable to one and far less costly and what is more involving no harm to either nation. That eminent authority in Railway and Dock Engineering, Sir John Wolfe Barry, who is by the way Consulting engineer to the Bombay Port Trust, considers this alternative in a highly interesting article in the *Nineteenth Century*. This is to have a railway ferry across the Channel to connect English with French railways in a continuous line without break on account of the sea. This ferry is not a new idea, for it was first started by Sir John Fowler, the colleague of Sir J. Barry in erecting that stupendous piece of modern engineering, the Tower Bridge, in 1872 and was almost authorised by Parliament, being negatived only by the casting vote of the Chairman of a Committee of the House of Lords. Sir J. Barry thinks that the tunnel could not be constructed under the bed of the sea, as a serious fissure in the chalk bed would in all probability have to be encountered and no human beings could work under such a water-pressure as would be developed. A railway ferry would then be the only alternative, and would be far cheaper. Such ferries are not unknown elsewhere. "We know of railway ferries in many countries by which both goods waggons and passenger railway rolling stock are conveniently interchanged across intervening seas and lakes for distances for exceeding that between Dover and Calais, and under conditions of sea exposure at least as great as between Dover and Calais. On the line of communication between Berlin and Copenhagen, as an instance, but also in many situations, we know that besides the ordinary rolling stock, restaurant and sleeping cars cross the ferries and that passengers habitually make their journeys in the cars." In the late War such a ferry was employed over the Lake Baikal to carry trains through on the Siberian Railway and it worked well enough though the strain during war time was severe enough. Such a scheme of a railway ferry across the Channel, instead of a Tunnel, against which nearly everybody seems to be—except the company-promoters who hope to profit by it—Sir J. Barry assures us is feasible enough, and moreover it offers an excellent compromise and a way out of the international difficulty which the Tunnel project involves.

PUNJAB AND THE RAILWAYS.

OUR Delhi correspondent sends us the report of a spirited speech by Mr. James Currie, Chairman of the Punjab Chamber of Commerce at its annual meeting, yesterday. His reference to the Railways and the need for greater enterprise will commend itself to many commercial men in Bombay. The Chairman admits that the question is of long standing, but we think that most people will agree with him that the better control of the Railways is a subject which can be undertaken and ought to be undertaken now. If there is to be an enquiry or a commission it should be held in India, not in London. We cannot but think that the weak spot in the Government arrangements all along has been the entire absence of the merchant with his commercial experience. The absorption of Railway moneys in the Imperial Budget is of course a fatal mistake and the result is paralysis. Place railways on their own basis; they are strong enough now for it, and associate commercial experience with their finance and management, and the fog that now envelopes it will lift. The fact of the matter is that bureaucratic control is no longer suitable. This Department must be emancipated from a system which it has outgrown. It is no use trying to put a growing lad off with half a meal or, as a colliery proprietor said the other day, when complaining of a shortage of wagons in the Midlands, "starving at a feast." There has been no change of policy for the last twenty years and it will only be by a great effort that the control will be brought into closer touch with Commerce. Without that nothing will and nothing can be done.

DISPENSARIES, ETC., IN CENTRAL INDIA.

The reports on the working of the dispensaries and on vacsination in the Central India Agency for 1904 and 1905 came to hand together yesterday. The former observes that the figures do not speak well for the popularity of the medical institutions of Central India. It must be remembered, observes the Administrative Medical Officer, that from the point of view of the mass of the people that this is not the limit of medical aid obtainable, but that it is more than supplemented by the Vaids and Hakims, who are not numbered by the small figure of qualified medical men quoted above: but can be enumerated in hundreds, and who, therefore, treat the majority of the sick in this Agency. The question arises whether the various Native States are giving sufficient medical aid to their subjects. This agency is pronounced to be the most backward so far as modern medical aid is concerned. In the latter report there are no further remarks on the subject, but Gwalior receives *kupos* for its Memorial hospital at Lashkar which is pronounced the first institution in Central India both in architectural features and equipment—a model of efficiency, equipment and construction, where the work done is of high quality. Plague is less virulent now than it was in Central India as the people have learnt to take care of themselves by resorting to the evacuation of infected areas.

TUNGAR.

IN another column, an enterprising correspondent imbued with the spirit of the explorer, recounts his recent visit to Tungar, a hill which presents a site for the establishment of a health station superior to Matheran or Khandalla. The story of an early attempt to open out the hill for residential purposes is re-told and the writer graphically depicts the attractions of the place and indicates how easily and advantageously it might be utilised as a hot-weather resort now that the existing stations are year by year becoming more overcrowded.

HER Majesty, Queen Alexandra, and H.R.H. The Princess of Wales, have graciously accepted copies of the new issue of Dr. Weymouth's New Testament in Modern Speech, edited by Mr. E. Hampden-Cook, M.A., of Sandbach, and published by Messrs. J. Clarke & Co., London.

HIS Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Violet Elliot will proceed to Barrackpore this evening, after the ceremony of unveiling the statue of the late Sir John Woodburn.

THE N. Y. K. steamer "Tenshin Maru" left Singapore for Colombo on the 21st instant.

THE P. and O. Company's s.s. "China" with the outward Mails of the 15th instant left Suez at 2 p.m. on Thursday.

MR. J. T. LEWIS, Chief Engineer, South Indian Railway, who was gored by a bison in the Cochin jungles has been safely conveyed to Trichnopoly by Dr. McCaully Hayes.

AT the Calcutta Police Court the Magistrate ordered warrants to be issued against Hardham Dass and Kalaram on a charge of misappropriation of over Rupees 19,000 property, belonging to the India Jute Mills.

THE Madras Diocesan Committee, has resolved to rescind the decision to close the society's college at Trichinopoly. The Rev. J. A. Sharrock will be Principal on the transfer of Rev. Pakenham Walsh of Bishop Cotton's School, Bangalore.

FROM the 9th to the 15th instant, 10 East Indians, 21 Native Christians, 275 Hindus, and 78 Mahomedans died within the limits of Madras, making a total of 382. The death-rate was 38·9 per mille, the mean for the ten previous years being 38·5. The deaths are thus classified:—Cholera 10, small-pox 4, fevers 94, bowel complaints 78, and other causes 196.

A SPECIAL telegram received at Madras to-day states that the Privy Council has dismissed the appeal of Vadagalais of Thiruvendhipuram in the South Arcot dirtsict preferred against the decision of the High Court. The High Court confirmed the decree of the District Judge South Arcot who dismissed the suit brought by appellant. Restrain Thengalais from carrying the idol of their saint Manavala Mahamuni in procession in public streets.

THE Commissioner of Police desires to call the attention of Ladies and Gentlemen attending the Reception on Saturday, the 23rd instant, that their carriages will enter Government House by the Upper Gate and after the occupants have alighted the empty carriages will leave by the Lower Gate and be parked in their respective blocks. These carriages when required will enter by the Upper Gate and on taking up their occupants will depart as expeditiously as possible via Lower Gate.

THE CHARMS OF TUNGAR.

A Neglected Hill Station.

Former generations of Anglo-Indian residents in Bombay were, I fully believe, more enterprising than the present one, and this is instanced very markedly by the way in which they exploited and developed such hill stations as Matheran and Mahableshwar. No doubt this was to some extent due to the assistance that the then heads of Government were prepared to, and did give, but there is no reason to believe that, if only that same enterprise was shown to-day, Government could not still be persuaded to do its part.

Few of the present generation of Europeans in Bombay have ever heard of Tungar hill, or, if they have heard of it, they know little more about it than its situation and nothing of its history or capbilities. Before giving an account of a recent visit to Tungar I will tell you something of its history during the past 50 years.

As far back as 1855 or so, afterwards Sir, Theodore C. Hope perceived the suitability of Tungar as a possible hill station for the European inhabitants of Bombay when he was an Assistant Collector in charge of the Bassein Taluka of the Thana district. This, it must be remembered, was the same year in which Lord Elphinstone with his staff first visited Matheran after its advantagee as a hill station for the hot weather had been exploited by Mr. Hugh Malet. At that time the B. B. & C. I. railway was far from completed, and some years before it was opened for through traffic to Broach. Ten years later, viz. in 1865, Mr. Hope thoroughly explored the hill and promptly brought it to the notice of Sir Bartle Frere, who equally promptly ordered an investigation to be made. Reports were submitted, as we only too often hear of even to-day, but though they were sufficiently encouraging during the next few years to induce Mr. Hope to put up a "chupper" house for his own use, bad times came upon Bombay owing to the commercial crisis that followed the termination of the American war. A Mr. Ansell of Bassein however also built himself a small bungalow, and a Portugese, who had charge of the refreshment room at Bassein Road station, ran up a building as an hotel. Mr. Hope still upheld his belief in Tungar as a hill station and for the ten years, 1869-79, continued to visit his bungalow whenever possible, while his enthusiasm was enough to induce Government to map out and allot about 40 building sites for which there were even definite applications. In 1872 he built himself a small upper-storied bungalow that cost about Rs. 5,000, and at this time the hill was frequently visited by many eminent men whose names are still remembered in Bombay. Tungar, however, never got a fair start owing to bad times and other things, and eventually Mr. Ansell's bungalow was burned down and the hotel was allowed to go to ruin in the absence of sufficient guests to make it pay.

In 1879 Mr. Hope apparently made a final effort to give Tungar a chance, after having spent many happy weeks for many years on the hill, and he sent in to Government a memorandum relating its history and pointing out its accessability, climate and water-supply. This memorandum stated that it was "drawn up at the request of His Excellency Sir Richard Temple, who wishes to enquire further into the capabilities of Tungar as a sanatarium" and resulted in the appointment of a committee, consisting of Henry F. Whyte, Osborne H. Channer and Edward Lawrence, to report upon the same. These three gentlemen visited Tungar in January 1880, spending three days there, and finally submitted their report dated 6 March, 1880. In it they detailed the approaches to the hill and the necessary estimated expenditure to perfect those approaches; they estimated the comparative times that would then be required to get from Bombay to Tungar and Matheran respectively, which worked out largely in favour of Tungar; they reported on the area available for building sites on the plateau and ridge, which excluding the latter, amounted to some 18, acres; they commented on the climate, of which, as regards the rainfall during the nonsoon, there was considerable doubt in spite of the fact that Mr. Hope had suggested that it was suitable for residence the whole year round; they inspected the various sources of water-supply, which they considered quite satisfactory and sufficient compared with Matheran and other places; but they did not consider that they were justified in recommending the necessary "expenditure required to improve the roads until further information as to the actual rainfall, temperature and climate" was obtained, as they were "not warranted in believing that it would prove specially salubrious or suited for residence all the year round," and taking into consideration places of far easier access "like Egatpuri, Lanowli, Khandalla and Bulsar during the cold and hot seasons and Nassik and Poona in the rains." On the strength of this report Government shelved the question for the time being in spite of the fact that in the years 1869-71 as much as Rs. 3,556 had been placed at the disposal of Mr. Hope for the purpose of constructing a road or bridle path up the hill from near Gokirwa, which he had enthusiastically carried out in addition to laying out and clearing about 13 miles of foot and bridle paths on the summit and in the woods rather below.

During the intervening 27 years since this report was drafted little or nothing has been heard of Tungar and only a very small percentage of Europeans who are now in Bombay have ever visited it. Mr. Hope's bungalow was handed over to the Forest Department and removed to Parol as the foot and to the north of the hill while all trace of the other buildings has long since disappeared.

For years past I have looked forward to a chance of exploring Tungar, but only this month did that opportunity come through the kindness of a friend who was in camp in the vicinity.

The train service at present to Bassein Road is hardly expeditious, for most trains take about two hours to do the 33 miles, with the exception of the Sunday afternoon excursion. However, it was with a light heart that I whiled away the time with the help of a well-equipped tiffin basket and eventually stowed my things on a tonga for the eight mile drive to the neighbourhood of Pehlar on the west side of the hill. For the first few miles there is good road, but after that, in order to get to Pehlar, one has to branch off to the left from the road that leads to the foot of the old bridle path and follow a new road at present under construction which involves sundry detours through the jungle where bridges or culverts are not-yet completed, though the game little tonga ponies stuck bravely to their rough work and seemed to enjoy it too. As one goes nearer, the towering mass of Tungar rises majestically upwards and becomes an impressive sight.

Arrived at camp and refreshed with a cup of tea, we strolled across the valley to inspect the haunts of a tiger that has lately been taking regular toll of the villager's cattle. What a sweet freshness there is in the air of the open jungle, especially in the spring months when so many of the trees are in full bloom, though leafless to a great extent, after the foul odours of even the Fort.

The Pehlar side of the hill is not the most convenient for reaching the top as there is no possible ascent by easy gradients such as were practicable along the course of the old bridle-path, and I had been warned beforehand of the tough climb that awaited us. To compensate in some small way for this, however, there is the advantage of its being the western, and consequently shady, side in the early morning, and as we started at about seven o'clock there was a pleasant freshness in the air. We were accompanied by seven native gentlemen of the neighbourhood to carry the ever necessary tiffin basket and box of soda water. Gentlemen, I call them advisedly, for there are few inhabitants of this country who better deserve the name than these quiet, unassuming, cheerful Varlis whose natural courteousness has never been tarnished by the demoralising influence of a great city. Children of the jungle they were centuries before the Hindus came into India, and so they remain to this day in spite of the generations of cleverer folk that have taken every advantage of their simplicity and general honesty.

Once across the intervening level ground, there was no mistaking the commencement of the ascent, for the path, if such it could be called, proceeded straight up the hill-side at apparently the very steepest spot, and the advantage of a good pair of lungs soon began to be put to the test. Up and up went the path through really fine forest composed of a quite extraordinary variety of different trees, mostly of course deciduous kinds and consequently leafless at this time of the year, except where the new leaves of some were just bursting forth in their spring-time glory, or where a majestic great mango towered its rich evergreen head. But the work before us was almost too heavy to allow of much attention being given to the glories of nature around until we reached the top of the shoulder—some 700 or 800 feet, I suppose—and paused for breath and the contemplation of the fact that below us on the other side lay a great valley which it was necessary to cross. As one had come up one consoled oneself with the thought that each hundred feet was so much to the good, but now we had to face the fact that most of it had to be given away again. Down the hill-side we went by the steepest route within sight and up the other side, with the track always carefully selecting its course so as to lead straight over the very top of every spur or hillock of a few hundred feet in height. Even those persistent and unexpected bits of downhill seemed to haunt and disappoint us. Hard climbing it was and yet our sturdy, contemplative attendants trudged on without apparently turning a hair, so that one almost felt ashamed of one's streaming face and panting chest, and looked with admiration on the slim-looking youth who bore on his head a full box of a dozen sodas. Pauses for a few minutes' rest became more frequent, but in spite of them we got ahead of the coolies, who perhaps rested rather longer when we were once out of sight, and eventually we topped a shoulder and struck the bridle-path. The ease of its gradients were a great relief after the scramble we had and in spite of its 27 years' of complete neglect it is still in quite good repair though naturally somewhat overgrown in places with occasional uprooted trees or giant cactus bushes with trunks as thick as a man's thigh lying across it. Over the top of the plateau we went to the small tank hewn out of the rock near Vaiturna point, and, picking a shady corner, waited what seemed to be the longest quarter of an hour I ever remember, for the arrival of the refreshments before being able to quench our new abnormal thirsts and tackle a most sumptuous breakfast.

The top of the plateau if more or less level or slightly undulating, affording many excellent building sites with magnificent views over the surrounding country, across the Vaiturna and Bassein rivers to the north and south, to the Tansa hills on the east and the seashore towards the west, though unfortunately the day was too hazy to allow of the beauties of this panorama being fully appreciated. With the exception of the view from the top of Godhulli peak of Karwar I know of no more expansive or impressive outlook than what we find at Tungar. Unlike Matheran the plateau is more or less bare of trees except a few mangoes of no great size, but many, I think, will agree with me that this is in no way a serious disadvantage, for a properly constructed bungalow affords quite sufficient shade and shelter from the sun without the aid of heavy-surrounding vegetation, and the comparative absence of the latter allows of free access to the fresh sea breeze that the proximity of Tungar to the coast so greatly favours in comparison with other places where we go in search of coolness in the hot months. Personally, I prefer Bombay in April to punkahless Matheran, though the Jost Fan has lately altered many things for the dweller in warm parts of the country away from electric power. [illegible] Mr. Hope's memorandum, and the Committee's report refer at some length to the climate of Tungar, its temperature &c. [illegible] I cannot help thinking that in [illegible] there is a good deal that is overlooking. The former puts forward the suggestion that the rainfall is little more than in Bombay and that the hill is consequently suitable for residence the whole year round, while the latter records temperatures for the three days that the Committee spent there which are considerably higher than the readings in Bombay on those same days. From enquiries that we made of our coolies it would seem that the rainfall is more nearly double that of Bombay, which is what one would expect, while the refreshing freshness of the air even through the middle of the day on the occasion of our visit makes one doubt the accuracy of the committee's thermometer, especially as Mr. Hope considered March as "perhaps the hottest month."

The chief disadvantage that I foresee from a residential point of view is the rocky, stony nature of the surface of the plateau and the almost entire absence of earth of any kind, but this impression, I admit, was formed on the experience of only a small portion of the suitable building area and may consequently be exaggerated, while the erection of guard-walls would probably soon result in the accumulation of sufficient soil to enable a satisfactory garden to be developed.

After a rest till the sun got a little less powerful we started down by a track close below Vaiturna point which took us past the three excellent reservoirs at Pandu spring that were hewn out of and under the solid face of the cliff by Jain monks in ancient days. They are all connected with each other and were full of crystal-clear water four feet deep when the slight scum on the surface was swept aside. It is true that they are some way down below the plateau but not beyond the range of *bhisti* work and they certainly contained many thousands of gallons of excellent water. We were unable to visit the several other springs that were reported on by the Committee to be sufficient to supply any likely requirements of the hill, but if Tungar fails to be developed as a hill station in the future it is pretty certain that the water question will not be the cause.

Our descent was somewhat trying in place owinge to its steepness and the slipperiness of the dry grass for there was no path but merely a track through the "Karvi" plants, apparently made and used by wild animals. Of these there are many on the hill and even in our few hours up there we met with signs of a number. A sambar dashed off through the brushwood and we found the fresh lying-up places of three more on the plateau. Signs of "bakri" (four-horned antelope) were everywhere, as well as of porcupines, while hares are numerous and peafowl were in evidence too. In one place we came across a tree trunk with the fresh marks where a tiger had scored it deeply when sharpening its claws, with the hairs still adhering to the bark.

Though a hard day's work by the route we went it was a most enjoyable day and I shall certainly look forward to my next visit to Tungar at as early a date as possible though it shall equally certainly be by the bridle path that Mr. Hope constructed and shall if possible include a camp on the top so that I may be able to more thoroughly explore the place.

Now, if the capabilities of Tungar were worthy of the earnest consideration of Government so many years ago, how much more so are they to-day, especially from the point of view of the European? In those days Matheran and other hill stations were visited by few others than Europeans and the accommodation available was sufficient for them, but now that Natives and Parsis have begun to realise the advantages and pleasures of our mode of living instead of adhering to their former unostentatious habits, and now that Matheran is to have its railway, many are the forebodings that, in future, it will hardly find the favour it formerly did in the eyes of European visitors, so that it is high time we sought another suitable place where relief from the hot weather particularly can be obtained. And what more excellent situation can be found than Tungar? It is considerably nearer Bombay than Matheran and the facilities of suburban railway traffic are very different now from what they were in the seventies, while I have little doubt that the B. B. & C. I. Ry. Co. would gladly jump at the idea of having a hill station on their line and would cater for the visitors by running fast trains to Bassein Road at any rate. The question of a branch line, possibly to the foot of the hill, run perhaps with a service of motor carriages, is not one for me to discuss here, but even apart from that, trains could easily land one as Bassein Road station under present conditions in 45 minutes, and motor cars or ponies by the good road that now exists as far as Sativli, would take one up to the top in another hour at any rate, so that it would be quite possible to reside there and still attend to daily business in Bombay, which is hardly the case with Matheran. But Tungar will never be developed by private enterprise and it must be to Government that we must look for the necessary help, if its capabilities, originally recognised so many years ago, are ever to take shape and be taken advantage of.

Without having traversed the full length of the old bridle path it is not possible for me to form an idea of the practicability of making it accessible to the now all-important motor car at a reasonable cost, but there is no doubt whatever that such a course would enormously enhance the possibilities of the development of Tungar as a successful and popular hill station.

E. C.

A MEMBER of the Goan community has filed a curious suit in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Sind against two others of the same community. A few years ago when the present complainant was about to marry the sister of the defendant he paid him Rs. 300 in cash and executed a bond for Rs. 1,700 this total amount of Rs. 2,000 being paid as dowry. The defendant's sister died in 1903 leaving a daughter who also died the following year. The present suit is for the recovery of Rs. 1,700 mentioned in the bond. The hearing of the case is fixed for the 27th instant.

CHINESE LABOUR TO CEASE.

SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT.

Lord Selborne's Emphatic Dictum.

STRANGE STATEMENT OF LORD ST. ALDWYN.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, MARCH 21.

A message from Pretoria reproduces Lord Selborne's speech at the opening of Parliament.

Lord Selborne said that the employment of Chinese would cease at the earliest possible moment, but no steps would be taken to repatriate them unless an effective substitute in the form of other labour or improved mechanical appliances were found.

The Ministers will give the Mining Industry every assistance. He earnestly prays for permanent peace and progress. All contentious matters are postponed until June.

He continued that it is urgently necessary to deal with the Asiatic question, of which compulsory registration is the essential forerunner.

["EMPIRE" SPECIAL.]

CALCUTTA, MARCH 22.

The Rand Progressives have begun harassing the policy of Sir G. Farrar who, amid angry dissent, declared repatriation as disastrous and will create a panic.

Viscount St. Aldwyn, being interviewed, blames Lord Milner for the country's deplorable condition.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Long Sitting Concluded.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, MARCH 21.

The House of Commons adjourned after sitting for twenty-seven hours. This is a record since Mr. Parnell's time.

The cause was the resentment of the Opposition at an alleged breach of faith on the part of the Government, in regard to the procedure of business.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL BILL.

Government Opposition.

LONDON, MARCH 21.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman announced that the Government would oppose the Channel Tunnel Bill.

The feeling of insecurity created by the Tunnel, said the Premier, would constantly lead to unnecessary expenditure, both Naval and Military.

Mr. Balfour expressed gratification at the announcement.

THE SUFFRAGETTES.

A Crowd of Amazons.

LONDON, MARCH 21.

The sentences on the Suffragettes varied from fines of one pound or in default a fortnight's imprisonment, to two pounds or one month. In one case a sentence of a month's imprisonment without the option of a fine was inflicted. All the Suffragettes went to prison.

IRRIGATION IN EGYPT.

Assouan Dam to be Raised.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

Telegrams from Cairo state that owing to the lack of a suitable site for another large reservoir, it has been decided to raise the Assouan Dam by seven metres at a cost of £1,500,000.

The work will be completed in 1913, and will irrigate an additional million acres, increasing the cotton crop by four millions sterling per annum. The scheme involves further submerging the Temple of Philæ and other monuments.

PARSEE NEW YEAR'S DINNER.

Sir M. Bhownaggree toasts Lord Reay.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

At the New Year's Dinner of the Parsees in London Sir M. Bhownaggree toasted Lord Reay, and the Persian Charge d'Affaires toasted the guests.

Lord Reay paid a tribute to the help given him by the Parsees when he was Governor of Bombay.

THE LIVERPOOL GRAND NATIONAL.

Latest Betting.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

The following is the result of the Grand National which was run to-day :—

Eremon	1
Tom West	2
Patlander	3

There were twenty-three starters. Won by six lengths. A bad third.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, MARCH 22.

The following is the latest betting :—

8 to 1 Eremon.
16 to 1 Tom West.
50 to 1 Patlander.

The other starters were :—Ascetic's Silver, Timothy Titus, Drumcree, Roman, Red Lad, Kathvale, Napper Tandy, Extravagance, Centre Board, Raven's Cliff, Bouchall, York, Barabas II, Buckaway, Kilts, Detail, Teddie, Loop and Foreman.

The betting was 6 to 1 Eremon, 100 to 6 Tom West, and 50 to 1 Patlander.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, MARCH 21.

The latest betting on the Liverpool Grand National is as follows :—

4 to 1 Red Lad,
10 to 1 Eremon,

THE TRANSVAAL LEGISLATURE.

Asiatic Ordinance Passed by Assembly Unopposed.

LONDON, MARCH 21.

Mr. Smuts introduced the Asiatic Ordinance into the Legislative Assembly of the Transvaal. He believed, he said, that the bill had the approval of all the white population.

The Opposition announced that they would be glad to co-operate with the Government in the matter.

The orders of the day were thereupon suspended and the bill was read three times, and sent to the Legislative Council who will consider it to-morrow.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

At the last moment the Volkites proposed Beyers, an ardent pro-Boer as Speaker. He was elected by 43 votes to 22. Yesterday's proceedings were frequently interrupted by cries for the Dutch and counter cries for the English. The *London Times* considers the disregard of the Imperial Government's disallowance of the Asiatic Ordinance as hardly a good omen.

THE "PUNJABI" CASE.

Native Press Censured.

LONDON, MARCH 21.

Mr. S. M. Mitra has written to Lord Minto with reference to the *Punjabi* case, strongly urging the reappointment of the Press Commission whose duty it would be to correct gross misstatements in the Native press and to supply correct information promptly.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

The Privy Council has dismissed the appeal from the High Court of Madras concerning the feud between the Vadagalais and the Mengalais.

THE TROUBLES IN ROUMANIA.

Persecution of the Jews.

PEASANTS vs. TROOPS.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

The continuous spread of the peasant revolt in Romania is creating uneasiness. The mobs are looting and burning wholesale. The attitude of the troops is not always satisfactory.

["EMPIRE" SPECIAL.]

CALCUTTA, MARCH 22.

Agrarian riots in Roumania are spreading into towns, which have been stormed and burned and the Government offices pillaged. The Army is mobilising.

HONDURAS AND NICARAGUA.

American Marines Landed.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

American Marines have been landed at Trujillo, Laceiba and Puerto Cortez in Honduras to protect American interests, in view of the continued heavy fighting between the Nicaraguans and Hondurans.

ANTI-JEWISH DISTURBANCES IN ROUMANIA.

Peasants vs. Troops.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

Collisions between troops and peasants have occurred at many points in Roumania and there have been numerous casualties on both sides.

Four hundred peasants forced an entrance into Jassy after the troops, and killed and wounded several of them. They plundered the residences of several landowners. Numbers of Jewish villages have been completely looted.

THE RED CROSS SOCIETY.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

The Dowager Empress of Russia has given £10,000 to the Red Cross Society to be devoted to three prizes for the best means of relieving the wounded.

THE FRENCH MONEY MARKET.

LONDON, MARCH 22.

The rise in the French Bankrate has surprised and disquieted the stock exchange. It is interpreted as an indication that money will continue to be dear for a long time

THE ALIGARH COLLEGE TROUBLES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LUCKNOW, MARCH 22.

Mr. Archbald, Principal of the Aligarh College, has written the following letter to Nawab Mumtaz-ud-daula, President of the Aligarh Trustees, dated 19th March, in which he says :—"I have just learned what I did not know before, that a definite assurance was given to the students of the College by the son of the Secretary that if they complied quietly with the orders regarding Ghulam Husain and offered an unconditional apology, the conduct of those who excited the other students would be overlooked. I need hardly say that had I known such a promise had been made I would have respected it. I am sincerely anxious to do anything that may end the unhappy troubles with which this College has recently been visited. I am, therefore, glad to tell you that I have decided, in view of the abovementioned promise, to receive back again the six students rusticated and hope this will mark the beginning of happier times.

FRONTIER RAIDS.

Capture of British Surveyors by Bunerwals.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 22.

On the evening of Tuesday last a Native Surveyor with five *kulasis* employed on the Buner border were captured and carried off by the Bunerwals.

RIFLE THEFTS BY BORDER DACOITS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, MARCH 22.

The Peshawar Correspondent to the *Pioneer* telegraphs the following details regarding the recent theft of rifles from the Police Post :—

"Another decoity was committed in the Peshawar District on the night of the 15th instant at Jangleburg; which is situated between Peshawar and Badhber, the scene of the recent outrage by the Zakka Khels. On this occasion it was directed against a small Police Post consisting of three constables. At 11 p.m., while one of the Constables was absent, the Post was surrounded by the dacoits who got into the Post by means of a ladder which they had brought with them. A fright then ensued in the course of which one of the two Constables received a wound on the forehand from a bayonet. The dacoits then succeeded in getting away with three Government Rifles, and bayonets belonging to the Police, and so far they have not been traced."

LEATHAM DEFAMATION CASE.

Construed as a Swadeshi Movement.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 22.

During the trial of the Leatham Defamation Case it was stated by the prosecution pleader that he had evidence to show that the *Bengalee* has been taking an unusual interest in the case even before it came into Court, regarding it as a sort of Swadeshi movement.

HYDERABAD JUDICIARY.

Vacancies and Appointments.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

HYDERABAD, MARCH 22.

A "Firman" from His Highness the Nizam has been published regarding important changes in the Judicial Department.

Aziz Mirza has been appointed Judicial Secretary in place of Sarbuland Jung who goes as Chief Justice, Bakshi Raghunath Pershad reverting to his usual place.

Nizamath Jung and Sulkader Jung have been appointed Judges of the High Court filling the two vacancies.

All the above appointments are officiating. Other subordinate places will be arranged later on by the Minister.

THE "WOODBURN" STATUE.

Remission of Ground Rent.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 22.

The Port Trust has remitted the charge for rent which was due on the Woodburn Statue, and have only charged the Committee of the Memorial Fund with the actual removal charges, namely Rs. 1,180.

THE CALCUTTA MADRASSAH

Prize Distribution.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 22.

The Annual Prize Distribution of the Calcutta Madrassah took place last evening at which the Nawab of Murshidabad presided, and the Principal read the Report which showed very satisfactory results.

BENGAL DISTRICT GRAND LODGE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, MARCH 22.

The District Grand Lodge of Bengal has held meetings at the Masonic Hall in Allahabad this week, at which the District Grand Master, Sir William Burkitt, presided.

COSSIPORE FACTORY.

The First Indian-made Field Gun.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, MARCH 22.

The first field gun made in India will, it is expected, be turned out from the Cossipore Factory within the next three months.

INDIAN LEGISLATIVE COUNCILS.

Despatch on Expansion Goes Home Next Mail.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ALLAHABAD, MARCH 22.

A Despatch, dealing with the questions relating to the expansion of the Legislative Councils, etc., goes Home by this week's Mail.

"GAZETTE OF INDIA" NOTIFICATIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 21.

RAILWAYS.

Major W. D. Waghorn, R. E., Executive Engineer and Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, Lucknow, is appointed to officiate as Deputy Manager on the North-Western Railway.

Major W. J. McElhinney, R. E., Deputy Traffic Superintendent, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway, is appointed to officiate as Deputy Manager on that Railway

Mr. W. E. S. McGregor, Officiating Deputy Traffic Superintendent on the North-Western Railway, is transferred to the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway.

Mr. A. B. Prussia, District Traffic Superintendent, is appointed to officiate as Deputy Traffic Superintendent on the North-Western Railway.

PLAGUE IN INDIA.

Further Increase in Mortality.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 21.

The statement of reported plague seizures and deaths during the week ending 16th March shows 58,099 of the former and 49,440 of the latter. The deaths number 3,934 in the Bombay Presidency, 5,019 in Bengal, 16,509 in the United Provinces, 19,565 in the Punjab, 334 in Burma, 2,906 in the Central Provinces, 80 in Mysore, 482 in Central India, 373 in Rajputana, and 216 in Kashmir.

There has thus been a further increase in most parts of the country except the Central Provinces.

BANK OF BENGAL RATES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 22.

The Bank of Bengal Rate for Demand Loans remains 9 per cent.

THE PROPOSED MEHTA STATUE.

FAMOUS MEN WHO SEE THEIR FACES IN STONE.

Some Indian Statues to Living Men.

By ARLEY.

Should the proposal to erect a statue in honour of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta be consummated, the Parsi Knight will not be able to boast that he is the only servant of the Indian people who can look upon his own outdoor presentment in stone. This distinction belongs at present to at least one well known Anglo-Indian knight, Sir Steuart Bayley, Sir Steuart is one of the small handful of old Haileyburians who were at the "school beneath the Dome" in John Company's days, before it was given over to the rats, and before it entered upon the present extremely prosperous era in its history. Sir Steuart was also grounded at Eton, and having risen to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, returned Home to become Secretary of the Political Department in the India Office in 1890, where he remained for fifteen years. Sir Steuart earned for himself a great reputation in Bengal, and the appreciation of the people was some years ago testified to by the erection, in his honour, of a statue by Mr. Hamo Thornycroft, R. A.,—an almost unique distinction, for we believe that not even in the capital of the British Empire can any subject of the Crown gaze upon his own likeness in stone. The King, of course, can do so in many places, as could his august mother before him. He can see himself as the sculptors have seen him at twenty, thirty, forty and fifty years of age, and as he is to-day. He can see himself as he was a decade or two ago on the spot where stood old Temple Bar in the centre of the roadway at the top of the Strand. His Majesty can also see himself in India at the corner of the Crescent in Bombay—than which there are few nobler equestrian statues in the world. Nor will Sir Pherozeshah be the first Bombayite to see himself in marble, for when the chaste white effigy of Dr. Blaney went up opposite the Municipal Buildings some years ago, the subject of the statue was still alive. Nor, indeed, will Sir Pherozeshah be the only living man who can see his lineaments in stone in Bombay, for the University Library of this city enshrines a handsome bust of Sir George Birdwood, who is still very much alive. Statues to living men erected in their honour by public subscription are rare in the King's Dominions, where a becoming reticence is more highly regarded than a figure in wood or stone. But on the Continent no man seems to feel outraged by seeing his face in marble, and images to living men abound. The most prominent statues in Christiania are to Ibsen and Bjornnsen, and they were erected some years before the death of the author of "Hedda Gabler." These two statues at one time formed the subject of one of the most comical controversies known to the Press of Europe.

Occasionally it happens that famous men find their lineaments portrayed in stone without their sanction. In the reredos of All Souls College at Oxford there is a striking image of the late Lord Salisbury dressed as a Knight of Chivalry in armour. The late Lord Grimthorpe, too, had his features perpetuated as the decorative design of a corbel on one of the churches he restored.

The late Sir Henry Irving had the pleasure of seeing himself in white marble in the Guildhall before he died,—a most beautiful piece of sculpture, in the garb of the Prince of Denmark at the moment of uttering the famous soliloquy "To be or not to be." But it is by no means rare for an English nobleman to have the statue which is to surmount his tomb erected in his private church or mausoleum in his lifetime. The late Lord Esher did so, by the way. He was then a baron, but he was subsequently created a viscount, and a dozen balls had therefore to be added to the marble coronet which he held in his hand. The Prince of Wales has at least one statue in his honour, the one by Mr. George Wade at Hongkong—a somewhat heroic figure, by the way, and very unlike the Heir-Apparent.

PLAGUE AND ITS TREATMENT.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE.")

SIR,—An Ahmedabad Correspondent says that "all means of combating plague being exhausted, our Municipality resolved to ask Government for the services of Dr. Moore or any other experienced plague officer to take steps for the suppression of plague." He further says that from 6th to 12th idem the total mortality was 388 including 159 deaths from plague. These figures are appalling. Among the beneficial measures introduced by H. H. the Gaekwar for improving the condition of his subjects, there is one for plague also. Plague preventive pills, each containing quinine grs 2, ipecacuanha gr 1/4, camphor gr 1/4, and carbolic acid m. 1/4 are ordered to be sold at one-fourth the cost price. They are sold at 40 per anna. By freely distributing the pills at Savali, Sandhosal, Sidhpur, &c., in 1898 the epidemic was checked in a comparatively short time as would seem by referring to the "Indian Medl. Record" dated 1st December 1898, in which a letter under the head of "New Ideas about Plague Treatment" appeared on the subject, a copy of which is attached to this.

With a view to reducing mortality and the incidence of plague at Ahmedabad, I would beg to suggest that the plague preventive pills may be freely distributed, or sold at a nominal price by the Ahmedabad Municipality.—Yours, &c.

21st March,

X.

NEW IDEAS ABOUT PLAGUE TREATMENT.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "INDIAN MEDICAL RECORD.")

SIR,—A new plan against plague has of late been adopted in the Baroda territory along with the usual measures of segregation, disinfection, camping out, etc., and the result appears to be satisfactory.

There is a small town called Savli having a population of nearly 7,000 souls,) at some distance from Baroda, where plague made its appearance in July last, and continued till October 1898. When segregation and disinfection had no effect on the epidemic and camping out was not practicable on account of rain, pills (each containing quinine grs. 2, camphor gr. ½, ipecacuanha gr. ½, and carbolic acid m. ½) were freely distributed by thousands as a preventive remedy. Each adult was asked to take two pills a day, one in the morning, and another in the evening.

The people took to this measure kindly, as it did not at all interfere with their religious prejudices, and the result of it was remarkable. About the middle of September last (when the epidemic was at its height and the average daily number of cases was 82 from the 2nd to the 15th of that month) pills were freely given, and the disease began to decline rapidly. During the week ending the 29th of the same month the daily average number fell to 4·4, and during the next week it was further reduced to 5. Subsequently there were in all nine cases from the 7th to the end of October 1898, since when no fresh case has occurred.

Some villages near Savli such as Sandhasal, etc., were affected with plague, and there also free distribution of the pills produced the desired effect.

Sidhpur is a pretty large town with a population of about 16,000. A few cases of plague occurred there, chiefly towards the end of August last, and the disease prevailed in an epidemic form in the next month, and continued like that in October 1898. The total number of cases that occurred during the week ending the 4th ultimo, was 71, and during the succeeding week it went up to 92, which was the highest weekly figure, giving a daily average of 13·1. It was about this time that the pills began to be freely distributed, and the epidemic commenced to abate. Towards the end of the last month the daily average number of cases fell to five. In the current month it is still less, and since the 9th. there has been no fresh case.

Some villages in the neighbourhood of Sidhpur became affected with plague, but free use of the pills checked it.

From what has been mentioned above, it would appear that the free use of these pills as a preventive measure against plague, deserves a further trial.—Yours, &c.,

(Sd.) SHAMSUDIN J. SULEMANI, L.M., Chief Medical Officer.

Baroda, November 22.

ENGLISH POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LETTER.

THE PROGRESSIVE ROUT.

Parliament and the Suffragettes.

PARSI ON THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, MARCH 8.

It is undeniable that certain methods of an unusual, unpleasant and un-English character were used on the Moderate side in the great fight for ascendency in the London Council—not by the Municipal Reform leaders but by certain hangers on—and that there was a great deal of indifference and apathy amongst the ordinary friends of the Progressive party. A portion at least of this apathy and indifference was due to the belief that the late majority, or at any rate the leaders, did not act quite as they should have done in regard to the transfer of education from the old School Board to the County Council. Say what they will there is a strong feeling amongst educational experts that but for the Progressive bosses London would still have a School Board as I am inclined to think it ought to have and will have some day. The old Council with more work on its hands than it could properly perform used to grab everything and was always crying for more. Then again it is a mistake to suppose that all Liberals are in favour of municipal trading or that every Progressive approved of the manner in which the Fabian set were allowed to dictate the policy of the party. I for one was not surprised at the result of Saturday's polling. The Progressives began to fall in public estimation when the steam boat service turned out such a complete fiasco and the Poplar Scandal, with which, however, they had nothing to do, and the disclosures in West Ham helped to render their position insecure. Of the numerous causes that contributed to the overthrow of the "Wastrels" as their opponents called them, I should put the question of the high rates first, and next to that the unpopularity of Socialism, which has been increasing ever since the triumph of the Keir-Hardie party at the General Election. I say that the result did not surprise me, but I must qualify this by saying that I did not expect that the Progressives would do so badly as they did in the South, nor did I expect that they would maintain their strength in Bethnal Green. Sir E. Cornwall who defeated Sir M. M. Bhownaggree in North-East Bethnal Green at the General Election was returned in the same division on Saturday with a majority of nearly 2,000. All four seats in Bethnal Green are held by the Progressives. Mr. Will Crooks M. P. and the unc'e guid Sir John Mc Dougall were also successful in Poplar, but their majority was greatly reduced. It is curious to observe that while the Municipal describe the verdict of the metropolis as "the defeat of Tammany" the Progressives style it as "a victory for Tammany." Each side accuses the other of mendacity. The Progressives also say that they were overwhelmed by the money lavishly spent by their antagonists, "Where we spent a shilling they spent a sovereign," says Mr MacKinnon Wood. This may be an exaggeration, but no doubt the winners were better supplied with the sinews of war than their opponents. "We had not too many friends" pleads Sir John Benn, M. P. and that is true.

PARLIAMENT AND THE SUFFRAGETTES.

There will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth at Exeter Hall to night where a gathering of the 'shrieking sisterhood' has been organised in view of Mr. Dickinson's attempt to induce the House of Commons to pass his Bill extending the Parliamentary franchise to women on the same terms as it is enjoyed by men. Encouraged by the active sympathy of the Prime Minister who a few days ago wrote that he would have "much pleasure" in voting for the measure, its supporters have made desperate efforts to bring their M. P. friends up to the scratch. The Unionist ladies have been no whit less energetic than the Liberal women and an urgent "whip" issued by the former is signed amongst others by the ex-Premier's sister Miss Balfour and his sister-in-law (Lady Frances Balfour). All these efforts however have not availed. The Bill came on for consideration at to-day's sitting of the House, but before Mr. Dickinson rose to move the second reading that wicked Mr. Sam Evans had the bad taste to present a petition from 21,000 women protesting against the suffrage being granted to their sex "believing that it would destroy rather than add to their real influence in their own sphere of work in the world." These 21,000 signatures were collected within a very short time and without the facilities possessed by the highly-organised advocates of Women's Suffrage After Mr. Evans's *coup* it seemed quite tame when Mr. Whitbread handed in a petition signed by 80 ladies in his own constituency in support of Mr. Dickinson's Bill and still more tame when Mr. Dickinson presented a petition from the Women's Liberal Association, Westminster, asking for Parliamentary franchise to be extended to women. The Prime Minister spoke early in the debate and hedged. He reaffirmed his loyalty to the blessed cause, but to the surprise of many he declared that he was not warmly enamoured of this particular bill because while it would enfranchise a small minority of well-to-do single women, it would not touch to any degree the mass of working women in the country. The Bill, however, was right so far as it went; and he would vote for it as a declaration of opinion that the exclusion of women from the franchise was neither expedient, justifiable, nor politically right. He had, earlier in his speech, however, explained that no pressure would be brought to bear on Ministerialists to follow his example, which in the circumstances was a wise announcement. The bulk of the amendments stood in the names of Liberals and one of them, Mr. T. A. Herbert had the couage to say that he had never heard a more complete *non sequitur* than that of his leader, the Prime Minister. Lady advocates of Mr. Dickinson's Bill said beforehand that the Speaker would "not dare" to allow the Bill to be talked out, but they were wrong. The honour of bringing about this catastrophe was due to Mr. J. D. Rees, who somehow does manage to keep himself well to the front. I cannot help thinking that the sad fate of Mr. Dickinson's measure was in no small degree owing to the powerful letter which Mrs. Humphrey Ward has written against this silly movement. As one who has had the warmest sympathy from her youth up with the various movements for the higher education and the professional training of women; who, moreover, has strongly resented their exclusion for so long from the local bodies of the country, and rejoices that the present Government is at last going to remedy so great an injustice. She begged the majority of the present House of Commons not to endorse Mr. Dickinson's Bill.

"It is," she proceeds, "no doubt, very difficult to draw the line clearly between local and Imperial Government; the two spheres must always overlap. But, broadly speaking, women are entitled to vote in the one sphere, because they are fully competent to take a practical part in its administration, and to form the opinions of actual experience on the issues presented. In the case of Imperial Government this is not so, simply because women are women, and their work in the world is different from that of men. In this sphere they are only entitled to the influence of educated opinion, which they must always have, and the more fully as the education of women extends. In asking for the vote, they are grasping at direct political power, without the possibility, in a majority of issues, of combining with it direct political responsibility—the responsibility of action. And this is impossible simply because they are women. It is of no use to labour the point; we all know what are the broad fields of action—action of many kinds, not merely or chiefly that involved in war—on which the very existence of our State depends, and into which women, because they are women, can never enter."

In its way the failure of the suffragists at Westminster to-day is just as great a blow to them as the result of the London County Council election on Saturday was to the Progressives. That however is not the opinion of Miss Christabel Pankhurst who, interviewed this evening, said that the defeat would draw women, especially Liberal women, together. It was the beginning of the end. Let us hope so.

BRITISH RULE IN BRITISH MALAYA AND ELSEWHERE.

Sir Alexander Swettenham, the distinguished but unfortunate Governor of Jamaica, presided on Tuesday at a meeting of the Colonial Section of the Society of Arts when Sir William Treacher read a paper on British Malaya. In addressing the audience which included Sir Steuart Bayley, Sir William Lee-Warner, Sir Philip Hutchins, Sir Arthur Trevor, Mr. J. H. Thornton and other prominent Anglo-Indians, observed that being himself no longer an official he need not stand in awe of the authorities "though even now it was difficult on some matters to express an opinion without giving offence." The sequel showed that Sir F. Swettenham was thinking of "the catalogue of our magnificent losses in the Malay Peninsula" to which Sir W. Treacher had referred in his paper; but I cannot help thinking that the somewhat uncalled for comparison, the chairman indulged in later in his speech, is also calculated to give offence. He had, he said, read in the newspapers that a certain amount of feeling had been developed both in India and Egypt against the authorities. He could say with the greatest confidence that such was not the case in the Malay States. If any one were to go there and endeavour to get the people to rise against the Government he would not find he had any listener; in fact, he (Sir Alexander Swettenham) had never in his life heard of either a foreign or native agitator in the Malay States. The people were entirely content and satisfied, and this he thought showed that something different had been done in regard to the administration of that tract of country from what had been done in other places. The rulers had been white men who had endeavoured to better the condition of the natives of the place and the best thing that could be said of the result was that the inhabitants were satisfied; did not feel that white men were shutting them out; did not feel that they were having taken from them something which was their birth-right. The Government had given them more than they had before and there was no feeling against the Government in any sense whatever. I suppose the lateness of the hour prevented any reply being made to these not very felicitous remarks. I confess I should like to have heard Sir William Lee-Warner, or one of the other Indian officials present, explain for the benefit of Sir F. Swettenham exactly why there is more contentment on the surface of Malay Society than on that of Indian. So much for Sir A. Swettenham. Sir W. Treacher in his admirable paper "let imagination run round what might have been, before dealing with what is and what is likely to be." What might have been, it seems to him, is, that our British Malay Empire might have included Burma, the Straits Settlements, the Malay Peninsula, Java, Sumatra, Borneo and other islands of the Malay Archipelago, with an aggregate area of over a million square miles, and a present population of about 49 millions. Of the countries enumerated we do now actually either possess or control all the following, namely, Burma the Straits Settlements, the larger portion of the Malay Peninsula, and Nothern Borneo, while the others have been let slip only through our own supineness. Sir William did not include the Philippines in his list though, as he said, he might have done so, for did not the East India Company's fleet under Admiral Drake and Sir William Draper capture those fertile islands from the Spaniards in 1762? It is no use crying over spilt milk, as the homely adage has it—and the extent of our over-seas possessions is not altogether inconsiderable, but as Sir William well observed "it was good that we should sometimes have brought back to our recollections some of the works and deeds of our ancestors, whose enterprise amidst difficulties, many of which have been mitigated by the advance of science—the invention of steam, for instance—laid the foundation of our dominions and trade beyond the seas, and to whom we owe it that these little islands are the centre of an Empire, the greatest the world has yet seen, instead of an appendage of some more enterprising nation of the West."

A PLEA FOR THE FILIPINOS.

With reference to what is said above about the Philippines I may call attention to an article in the current number of the *North American Review* entitled "A Plea for the Filipinos. The writer, General W. H. Carter, U.S.A., who has served in the Philippines and may therefore be presumed to know what he is writing about. This authority concurs with those who say that the American occupation has not been an unmixed blessing to the Filipinos who have been robbed of the benefits formerly derived from the Spanish markets and are prevented by the United States tariff-wall from participating in American markets. To the discontented population American rule, he tells us, appears to be synonymous with a higher cost of government increased expense of learning and decreased earning capacity. Owing to certain restrictive provisions of existing legislation the introduction of American energy and capital is discouraged. The small participation of Americans in the business of the islands is says General Carter "really discreditable to us as a nation. The export trade is almost wholly controlled by British, Spanish, German, Chinese and other foreign houses, neither Americans nor Filipinos having any serious commercial interests." He suggests inter alia a lowering or abandonment of the tariff barriers, and amendment of the land laws. A continuance of present conditions is, he maintains, a Fabian policy, fatal alike from a commercial or military point of view. Clearly, Sir F. Swettenham's comparison should not have been between British Malaya and British India or British Egypt (if I may use the expression) but between British Malaya and American Philippines.

OLLA PODRIDA.

It will interest your Zoroastrian readers to learn that Mr. Nowrojee Dadabhoy Allbless LL. B. of Hampton-on-Thames has been returned unopposed as a member of the Middlesex County Council. His proposer was a leading resident in the district, Sir Hector Maclean Hay, Bart., and it says much for Mr. Allbless's popularity amongst his neighbours that he should have been elected without a contest in a constituency full of Conservatives. Mr. Allbless is a Liberal, but he is one of those sensible people who think that the less we have of politics in our County Councils and other local bodies the better. Three prominent Conservatives were invited to fight the seat, but each declined to stand and so Mr. Allbless was allowed a walk over. He is to be congratulated on being the only Indian County Councillor in the country.

A promising member of the community to which Mr. Allbless belongs—Mr. M. J. Taleyarkhan of Balliol College is to lecture before the Parsee Social Union next Monday on "Cumnor: an Historic English Village" which is connected with India by recollections of that versatile writer in India, the late Sir William Wilson Hunter, whose place by the way, has never been filled.

The term of office of Sir James Mackay, Member of the Council of India, expires on the 29th of April and people are wondering whether he will be invited to serve for another five years. If he is, his brother Councillors will, from what I can learn, be very glad if he sees his way to accept the invitation. Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick also, by effluxion of time ceases to be a member of the Council next month. He was appointed on the 24th of April 1897 within a few weeks of the completion of his Lieutenant-Governorship in the Punjab.

Apropos I met the other day a young cleric who takes an interest in politics and holds somewhat advanced views. "How many members of the India Council are there?" he asked. I told him "Too many." He went on to say, with the air of a man who was an authority on the subject. "Oh indeed," I said "Yes," He replied, "there only ought to be four." I questioned him a little further and ascertained that, as he quaintly put it he had been at talking the matter over with an "old Indian." I should have thought that his informant was a very young Indian. I only mention the incident as showing the calm way in which ignorant and conceited people of a certain class express their "opinions" about the enormously difficult problems of India. We have another illustration of this in the address delivered a few days ago to the Oxford University India Society by Lord Weardale who, if I am not mistaken—it is really very difficult to remember the previous names of these new lords—was formerly known as the Hon. Philip Stanhope. His speech was such as might have been made by Sir William Wedderburn, especially his demand for the introduction of Indians—I suppose Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee for choice—into the Secretary of State's Council. But I cannot imagine a man like Mr. Morley accepting as his monitor a man like Lord Weardale, that is, assuming I am right in identifying the noble Baron with the Mr. Stanhope whose fierce Radicalism did not prevent him from blossoming into a peer of the realm.

SURAT AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION AND CATTLE SHOW.

Provincial Conference.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT)

SURAT, MARCH 21.

The Agricultural Exhibition and Cattle Show was formally opened yesterday.

The proceedings opened by Rao Bahadur Naginchand requesting the Hon'ble Mr. Muir Mackenzie to declare the Exhibition open and in doing so he said :—

Mr. Muir Mackenzie, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It has devolved upon me, as Chairman of the Surat Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition Committee, to offer in the name and on behalf of the Committee and of the citizens of this old and historic City, our cordial welcome to our distinguished guest, the Hon. Mr. Muir Mackenzie. This pleasant duty has devolved on me, I deem as a precious privilege. I wish the honour had been conferred on a worthier person from among my co-workers or among my fellow-citizens, who, I am sure, would have performed this function more gracefully or more effectively. But since it has been the unanimous and earnest desire of all concerned in the organisation of this Exhibition that I should perform this function, I submit to their decision, though by reason of my inexperience and unworthiness I should have declined the honour. Honoured Sir,—before requesting you to declare the Exhibition open I beg leave to make a few prefatory remarks on the position which Surat held in former days as the greatest emporium of trade on this side of India, its commerce and manufactures, and its decadence. Instead of wearying you with the shadowy and nebulous account of the rise of Surat on the site of defunct Suryapur, I shall at once come down to a period at which we can tread upon the firmer ground of historical certainty. Not farther than a bow-shot from here may be seen the old flight of steps on the riverside, where in 1608 the first English ship commanded by Captain Hawkins dropped anchor in the Tapti, and not far from there, five years later, arose the first British factory in India. Surat was then in the heyday of youth and prosperity, and though it is now shorn of all its greatness of by-gone days, it is proud of being called the cradle of the British Empire in India. When Captain Hawkins dropped anchor in the Tapti, what man, however sagacious, could have thought even in his dreams that Hawkins was an unconscious pioneer of the sturdy race of men who two centuries later, under God's inscrutable dispensation, would be called upon by force of circumstances to unify the scattered fragments of Aurangzeb's Empire, would finish what the Mahratta had left unfinished, and, taking the scattered units of an ancient but decomposed nation under their protection, would commence the stupendous work of combining, uplifting revivifying and enlightening a disjointed, down-trodden, moribund, benighted land. It was here, in Surat that the foundation was laid of those commercial relations between England and India which eventually culminated in British Supremacy in the East long before Bombay and Calcutta and even Madras sprang into existence. In Surat was witnessed the first instance of the British indomitable pluck and resourcefulness that foreshadowed in a measure what qualities made the British undisputed masters of India. When that great Mahratta leader Shivaji swept through the plains of Gujarat and sacked Surat, Sir George Oxinden the head of the Surat factory by his pluck and skill not only saved the English factory but generously offered an asylum to many a Surat merchant. As I said Sir, Surat was then in the hey-day of its glory. It was the entrepot of all the commerce of North India. It was from Surat that the rich products of North India were exported and the argosies and fathemaris built by the once famous ship-builders of Surat were to be seen in Eastern waters as far as China and in the Western seas as far as Madagascar. I may here parenthetically observe that the famous Vadhias of Bombay originally belonged to Surat. On the bosom of the Tapti congregated ships of almost all the nations of the world and it was a common saying that Surat had "*Bundar nun ,Tamlo*" floating on the forest of shipping riding on the Tapte. But Surat was not only the main outlet of commerce, it was the seat, perhaps, the principle seat of those beautiful silk fabrics that were a marvel of artistic taste and finish and were always in demand in Persia, Arabia, Turkey and further Westward in Europe. The flowersilks of Surat kinkhabs and the brocades shot with gold and silver, and plain silk fabrics such as Elaicho, Masru Ghat, Gaji, etc., were admired and had a high place in the markets of the world till lately when people gave up the home spun and more durable fabrics and went in for lighter and fragile foreign stuffs. The beautiful fabrics here exhibited will give but a faint idea of what sort of stuffs the looms of Surat could turn out in former days. Surat has still maintained its position as the great centre of Sandal-wood-carving, of ebony and ivory, Jardos or embroidery and silver lace. The silk industry of Surat has disappeared before foreign competition, though families have yet retained the old Elaichavala, Taswala, Kinkhabwala, An amusing instance will show how people have become oblivious of this A lad studying in one of the High asked by his teacher if he could tell him surname Elaechawala meant. The boy naively he was not sure but perhaps it was because came originally from a village called Elaecha. The decadence of Surat begins with the transfer of its trade to Bombay towards the close of the 18th century. With the gravitation of Surat trade to Bombay many wealthy Hindoo and Parsee families went to Bombay and settled there well-to-do population rapidly declined and Surat was but a shadow of its former greatness in the early part of the 19th century. There were marks of "dismal decay" visible everywhere. The decade from 1825 to 1837 is the period of the utter deression of Surat. The disastrous fire of 1837 and floods that followed shortly after, completed the ruin of Surat. It languished till the year 1865 when the American War brought back to Surat some of its former prosperity. Surat revived now. There has been since then, some activity in trade and manufacture, large sums of money find their way into this old city chiefly owing to the enterprise of its Borah Merchants. It is to be hoped that the transfer of the pearl market to Surat will also lend its help to enable Surat to regain part of its former prosperity.

Honoured Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,—a few works with regard to this Exhibition. The most noteworthy feature of this Exhibition is that whereas the four great Exhibitions that preceded this one were held under the auspices of the National

ach other is there no Ladies' Section? There is no wedding feast where the best wine was served last so well remembered as the one. We want to carry away a very pleasant recollection of our exhibition, and so I come to the most beautiful feature of this show last of all. The Ladies' Section is the crowning piece of this Exhibition. God has endowed ladies will exquisiteness of taste, delicacy of touch and keenness of perception of the beautiful by which they can catch furtive graces of nature and art and press them into their service. It is no wonder that that section defies comparison. Even Mr. Dubash must admit that they bear away the palm. One heart-felt thanks are due to the energetic Secretaries of the Section Mr. Bose, Mr. Scott and Dr. Rukhmabai and their voluntary Co-workers. To the architect who laid out the grounds and to the Secretaries who have worked night and day and to the volunteer-workers and sympathisers the Committee owe a deep debt of gratitude. I have exceeded the bounds, I had prescribed to myself, or else I should have mentioned their names and expressed to them personal thanks. Honoured Sir, the main object of this Exhibition as in the case of the preceding ones is to arouse our agriculturists and artizens to shake off their lethargy of ages, to put before them patterns of up-to-date improvements made by the progressive nations of the West, to call their attention to the deterioration of their handiwork caused by their stagnant conservatism, to scoop out of their minds all ideas of baneful inertia, in short to teach them by such object lessons to compare what they are with what other nations have become and what they are with what they would become if they yield themselves to the beneficial influences of a healthy progress. To prepare an Exhibition is an arduous task, and as this is our first venture the incompleteness of our undertaking and our shortcomings must be patent to you, but I do hope and trust you will generously overlook it. I will now request you, Honoured Sir, to declare this Exhibition open, and I solicit the favour of your kindly acceptance of this humble token of our gratitude.

The Hon'ble Mr. Muir Mackenzie then addressed the assembly. The opening part of his speech has been published yesterday.

Continuing his address the Hon'ble Mr. Muir Mackenzie said:—Without trained intelligence to spread teach, demonstrate and apply the results of scientific investigation we cannot hope to induce the cultivator to adopt improvements as they are discovered and introduced. At present the work of investigation is more or less in the hands of a few, too few as yet, European experts. But we require to train up Indians who shall be fitted in the first place to assist and superintend the operations directed by the highly skilled expert from Europe, to superintend experimental farms, to carry out demonstrations on demonstration farms and plots spread all over the country, to itinerate and lecture and to teach the meaning and application of the results obtained by experiment. But we look forward to far more than this. We desire to train Indians who shall themselves become experts in scientific experiment and research. We hope and wish to find our Indian Leather in agricultural chemistry, our Indian Mollison in practical agriculture, our Indian Lefroy in entomology, and we have confidence that these men will be found. The talented gentlemen whose services we hope to secure as Principal informed me that if he did not believe in the capacity of the Indian to effect valuable results in scientific research he would not have offered himself for the post. Only the other day I was informed that from our Veterinary College we turned out a certain number of men every year who promised to attain the highest skill in their profession according to the best European standards. But besides this as you are aware the Agricultural degree up to which the college works, ranks on a par with the arts degree as an avenue for general employment under Government. This measure has been taken because in the first place it is held that such a course of training furnishes a man with sound and liberal a mental equipment as any other, and in the next because it will leave the services with a class of men accustomed to apply their minds to agricultural questions, men who will think agriculturally as other men for instance think philosophically, or legally and who will thus serve to impress upon and diffuse among the people sound agricultural ideas, and the value of agricultural improvements. The next object of our agricultural administration is scientific experiment. For this purpose as you are aware we establish experimental farms in typical tracts with the object of ascertaining by trial the improvements which can be effected with due regard to the conditions of each tract. For instance in the experimental farm which is located in Surat we concentrate our attention principally upon cotton, as that is the crop in which this part of the country is principally interested, My friend Mr. Fletcher like his distinguished predecessor Mr. Mollison tells me that in skilled methods of cultivation we have little to teach. The cultivator of this part of India is already among the most skilful of the world. But we can, we hope, find him superior material on which to exercise his skill. Already Mr. Fletcher believes that he has bred a variety of cotton which in quality and yield together surpasses the best indigenous cotton of this tract by some 16 per cent. And the merit of this variety is that it has been bred here, in natural conditions, so that there is every hope that it will maintain its quality and productiveness when grown in the tract, and not deteriorate, as imported varieties so frequently do, owing to the difference of climate, soil, rainfall and other conditions of the region from which they are imported. Then in the third place we require demonstration of such results as we may obtain. In this purpose small farms or plots have to be started in various portions of the tract served by the experimental station so that the neighbouring cultivators may see the improved crop grown in their midst, and from which seed may be distributed with convenience in adjacent areas. Another form of demonstration is by means of lectures delivered to cultivators by itinerant lecturers such as our friend Mr. Kelkar of Poona and Bhimbhai of this farm. And lastly, another form of demonstration is in the Shows and the Exhibitions like the present, where people see the various indigenous products, implements, cattle, etc, by the side of those which have been improved; when the commercial men can come and form a judgment of the business value of the results attained, when cultivators can assemble to hear and see lectures and demonstrations, taking back the impressions they form to their villages for circulation and discussion among their brethren, and when all classes of the public can come and learn that agriculture is a science and an art in which there is room for unlimited improvement, development, increase of profit and insurance by prudential and scientific management against loss. And here I should like to say that I attach special value to the association of an agricultural with an industrial exhibition. The agriculturist cannot do without the trader or the trader without the agriculturist. The cotton cultivator must supply the manufacturer with his raw material, and the produce of food crops depends upon the exporter or the purveyor of the towns in order to find him a market for his surplus. On occasions like these the two can meet, compare notes, ascertain what each wants and has to give.

The extent to which manufacturer and cotton cultivator inter depend has been conspicuously demonstrated during the past year in the case of Sind Egyptian cotton. And here I should like to pay my tribute of appreciation to the enterprize of certain Ahmedabad firms who sent their agents to a trial for Sind Egyption at Mirpurkhas. I believe they are on the whole well satisfied. I am sure their action has stimulated the Sindhi Zemindars to persevere in the growth of this valuable cotton, notwithstanding the great discouragement due to the large injuries effected by the boll-worm pest. Above all I hope that the action taken by these firms will secure this valuable product for this country and will enable its mills to produce some of the finer and higher counts at a decided advantage compared with the mills of Great Britain and other parts of the world, and then stimulate the extension of the textile manufacturing industry in this country.

I must not close without reference to the subject of cattle. In this respect perhaps our Exhibition has not much to show. The spread of rinderpest through the district has made it impossible to bring together cattle in large numbers. But even our small show has had its value in demonstrating what improvement can be effected even within the limits of a fine local breed, by selection. There has been opportunity of seeing the Government farm animals which in general class and milking capacity beat the record of the neighbourhood. Now this record has been attained entirely by selection, and valuable lessons can be learnt on the spot of the results of seclection, by any cultivator or cattle farmer who chooses to take the trouble. The principles of selection, which in this case are extremely simple and easy to carry into practice can be explained and taught to anyone who would like to learn. I have alluded to rinderpest as the chief cause of the some what meagre exhibits of cattle. It is causing sad havoc. But out of the evil good will come if the people learn the value of inoculation. Mr. Hewlett, our most energetic Superintendent of the Civil Veterinary Department, has succeeded in getting inoculated some 20,000 cattle already, in various parts of the country. It is not too sanguine to hope that if he can continue to work at this rate the demonstration of immunity from its fatal disease which is conferred by inoculation will be realized by the people at large. They have already ceased to be afraid of it and before long I trust they may become as they have in parts of Northern India, eager for it. And may we not hope for a still more beneficial result. If people can be induced to submit to inoculation the sacred cow, will they not be induced to submit their own persons to the same harmless operation in order to secure immunity against plague? I cannot believe that people will long continue suspicious of a prevention so sure in its operation and beneficial in its results, or that a man will see his wife or child fall a victim to this ghastly disease for want of a slight prick of the skin and the injection of a minute quantity of the saving fluid.

Perhaps I should not let slip this opportunity of speaking a word to you on one or two other topics. The first is the adulteration of cotton. Hitherto this mischievous process has, we are informed been confined to the mixing in the marketing, that is to say th baling stages. There has been no mixing, at any rate in these parts, of seed by the cultivator. He sows generally pure the variety which he finds most profitable to him. But a new danger, I am informed has arisen. Some acute cultivators have discovered that the inferior and coarser cotton thrive better than the fine native Surats, on certain inferior soils. They have grown such cottons on those soils, with satisfactory results. The inferior cottons have gone to the same gins as the superior. The probable consequence is that at the gins the seeds of the two kinds have become mixed. The result may be that mixed seed will be sown and the purity of your best cottons and their reputation for quality may be destroyed. I venture to utter a serious warning to all who are interested in cotton cultivation that you should guard against this danger.

I now turn to the Industrial side of the Exhibition. Of this I shall speak very briefly. To begin with I have not yet been able to see that part of the Exhibition, and in the second place I do not think it necessary to dwell at length on the subject of Industrial Development as it will be thoroughly ventilated at the approaching Conference.

I have already alluded to the great benefit which may be expected to result from the above association of agriculture and other commercial industries, and how clearly bound together these interests are. It is necessary to add that in every matter which will help and develop the Manufacturing and Trading Industries of India, the Government feels the deepest interest and concern. Owing happily to the enterprize, every day developing and increasing, of the manufacturing classes, it is unnecessary so far to have a Provincial Industrial Department and Director. Yet as there has been already established a central department of Commerce and Industry so I should not be surprised to see Provincial Departments and Directors before long.

As you are no doubt aware important steps have already been taken for the development of Technical Education for which purposes a grant of, I think, Rs. 167,000 per annum has been made by the Government of India. Efforts are everywhere being made to give assistance to the handloom weaver, and I believe at the last show in Ahmedabad useful demonstrations were given of the improved looms invented by Mr. Churchill of the American Mission at Ahmednagar and others. Substantial financial assistance is being given to Mr. Churchill's enterprise.

It is much to be regretted that the Industrial position of this city of Surat should have fallen so low as it has. I could wish that it had, and I am unable quite to understand why it has not as many mills and as promising a textile Industry in proportion to its population as Ahmedabad. I trust that this Exhibition may prove a starting point of future developments, and that the weaving, wood-carving and hand-weaving industries may attain in time a flourishing condition.

The great requisite of industry is capital, and I am glad to note that capital, lately has been largely forthcoming for textile manufacture. With so many captains of industry ready to finance undertakings which promise a remunerative return direct financial encouragement from Government is little required at present, except for technical education. Mention has been made to me of a praiseworthy scheme for the aid of the handloom weavers of Surat who depend for their finance on money-lenders whose terms are onerous. The idea is, I believe, for a company to raise capital to advance to the weavers on moderate terms for purchase of material to market their produce at moderate commission, and the promotion of the undertaking is a near relative of that well known citizen of Bombay, Mr. Vrijbhukandass Atmaram. I wish the undertaking every success.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now time for me to bring these remarks to a close. I can do so in no more fitting way than by cordially congratulating the Committee on the result of their exertions. They have had serious difficulties to overcome, particularly the calamity of plague, which at one time threatened to render impossible the holding of the Exhibition. Notwithstanding these difficulties, however, they persevered with the admirable results which we are immediately to see. They have, I believe, accumulated a large guarantee fund, they have received so many applications for space that some difficulty may be experienced in complying with them and it will not be over-sanguine to hope that the financial results will be in every way favourable. I thank you for the patient hearing which you have given me and again for your most cordial reception and now proceed with your permission to declare open the Provincial Industrial and Commercial Exhibition of 1907. (Applause).

Mir Muzaffer Hussen Khan proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Muir Mackenzie.

In seconding the vote Mr. Bomonji Edulji Mody, late deputy collector, said:

Hon'ble Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I beg to second the vote of thanks to the Hon'ble Mr. Muir Mackenzie for having condescended to preside at this opening of our Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition. Government have always been solicitous for the welfare of the people of our country, whom the Divine Providence has placed under their care. They have been endeavouring by means of technical schools to encourage our Arts and Industries, and they have been paying special attention to means for the improvement of agriculture which is the principal source of the wealth of this country. India is now able, thanks to our British Government, to maintain nearly twice the number of people that existed a century ago.

This wise and benefi cent policy of our Government is advanced and furthered by great and able Councillors like the Hon'ble Member who is presiding here, and is carried out by such sympathetic officers like our worthy Collector, whom we are sorry we are shortly to lose. The measures taken by Government for our benefit have been just now described in the most instructive address to which we have listened so attentively. When in charge of the Agricultural Department the Hon'ble Mr. Muir Mackenzie made many improvements in its internal working. He had always been ready to assist any scheme or work that was likely to benefit the people. When he was deputed by the Bombay Government to assist the great Irrigation Commission by producing evidence before it regarding this Presidency, he thoroughly mastered all the details of every project that was to be discussed, and sometimes personally visited the localities. So highly was his assistance appreciated by the Commission that when a vacancy occurred on it they could not find a better man to fill it.

By taking the trouble of coming down to our City, he has given a great encouragement to our undertaking and has laid us under a heavy debt of obligation. Government have undertaken to carry out our Agricultural Exhibition and the credit for it is due chiefly to the Hon'ble Member. I am sure that you will carry with acclamations this vote of thanks to the Hon'ble Mr. Muir Mackenzie.

The vote was carried by acclamation and the assembly moved into the Exhibition enclosure to see the exhibits in their various stalls.

ARRIVAL OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF GOA.

His Excellency Conceillor Arnoldo de Novaes, Guedes Rebello, Governor-General of Portuguese India, arrived in Bombay yesterday morning by the Poona mail train. As his Excellency's arrival was public, arrangements were made to give him a fitting reception on his alighting at the Victoria Terminus Station. A guard of honour consisting of 100 rank and file of the Royal Scots with band and King's Colour under Captain E. F. Annand, who was with Lieutenant J. M. Scott and Lieutenant F. I. O. Brickmann, was drawn up at the northern end of the platform; while the Governor's Bodyguard, under Captain H. T. Naylor, was stationed on the road outside. The arrangements were excellently carried out by the Police Superintendent, Mr. C. H. Langley, and Mr. Ryan, the Station Superintendent. Among those present at the Station to receive his Excellency were Vice-Admiral E. S. Poe, Naval Commander-in-Chief; Brigadier-General R. M. Greenfield, Commanding Bombay; Viscount of Wrem, Consul-General for Portugal; Mr. H. O. Quin, Secretary to Government Political Department; Mr. W. D. Sheppard, Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay; Mr. G. W. Hatch, Collecter of Bombay; Major C. E. Baynes, D.A.A.G.; Major F. Lee, Military; Secretary to H E. the Governor of Bembay; Captain H. Meynell, A., D. C., Captain R. P. Stares, Brigade-Major Bombay Brigade; Mr. R. M. Phillips, Deputy Commissioner of Police; Dom Jose Sebastiao Pereira, Bishop of Damaun; Rev. Father C. Para, Vicar-General; Rev. Father Cardozo Menezes, Secretary to the Bishop of Damaun; Lieutenant C. Goolden, R.N., and Mr. A. Juvenal deSouza. The train conveying his Excellency entered the station at ten minutes past eleven and as he alighted from the carriage the band of the Royal Scots played the first bars of the Portuguese Anthem. The officials present having been introduced to his Excellency the latter in company with Brigadier-General Greenfield inspected the guard of honour. He then left in a state carriage for Government House, Malabar Hill, escorted by the Governor's body guard. His Excellency has been accompanied by Captain Sota Maior, A.-D.-C.; Captain Pena Vidalo, A.-D.-C.; Dr. R. Rodrigues; Dom. Louis de Castro, A.-D.-C., and Mr. Louis Novaes, Private Secretary. A salute of 17 guns was fired from the Saluting Battery to announce his Excellency's arrival.

General Booth, speaking of his recent visits to Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, described his interview with the King of Denmark. "At parting we shook hands again and again, and his Majesty said, 'General Booth, we shall meet again, and wherever we do meet I shall be very happy to see you.' 'Yes, your Majesty,' I replied, 'we shall meet again—over the river, your Majesty. trust we shall meet over the river.' He said, 'Yes, over the river.'"

ARCHBISHOPRIC OF BOMBAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

Sir,—I read, with pleasure and interest, the letter in your to-day's issue, signed "Sympathy." I thoroughly appreciate the remarks of your correspondent and fully enter into the spirit of the letter. How keen and widespread has been the feeling in favour of the proposal to have the vacant see of Bombay filled by a British Prolate may be seen from a brief summary of the movement in support of the question. No sooner had it become manifest that the wish to have an Englishman at the head of the Archdiocese was prevalent in every section of the Catholic Community, a Committee came into being and a Public General Meeting was duly advertized. That meeting had to be abandoned, however, out of deference to His Excellency the Delegate Apostolic, but so strong was the desire that the memorial which was to have been submitted to the meeting previous to its circulation, had to be placed before the public in accordance with the general wish. The petition to the Holy See was quickly circulated and was forwarded with all possible despatch to His Holiness that it might reach its destination in time. Owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case, the German Jesuits being practically Archbishop-makers the Rev Severino Noti, S.J. was preconized successor to the late most Rev. Dr. Theodore Dalhoff. But no sooner was there some glimpse of hope than more than one representation went forth to Rome, renewing the request and soliciting the reconsideration of the question. If this proves anything, it proves beyond a shadow of doubt that there is a strong feeling and a settled conviction that it is to the interest of the Catholic Community of Bombay that its next Archbishop of Bombay should be an Englishman. It will be remembered that when the question was discussed in the columns of your widely-circulated journal, the learned Editor of the "Examiner" the organ of the German Jesuits in India addressed you a letter attempting to minimize the importance of the points urged by your correspondents to establish the conclusion that the vacant see of Bombay should be filled by the appointment thereto of an Englishman. The learned Editor was replied to, but I submit that the enclosed letter which appeared in the *Tablet* of September 22, 1906, answers more fully and meets the objections satisfactorily. I shall, therefore, feel grateful to you, if you will kindly find space for it.—Yours, etc.,

NIL DESPERANDUM.

Bombay, March 22.

A COMMENT.

"A Bombay Catholic," comments as follows upon the question in the *Tablet*, thus:

As your paper is widely circulated amongst English-speaking Catholics and also reaches the Eternal City, I forward to you cuttings of the correspondence which appeared in one of the leading dailies of this city with the fervent hope that you will be pleased to find space for it and support the prayer to the Holy Father for the appointment of an Englishman in place of the late Most Rev. Dr. Dalhoff, S.J., Archbishop of Bombay.

From the letter published over the signature of "A Loyal British Subject" (*vide Bombay Gazette*, July 4), it will be seen that the wish expressed for an English prelate is in perfect accord with the sentiments prevailing all over the world, and that the request of the Catholics of Bombay to the Holy Father seems to be consonant thereto.

The next letter (*Bombay Gazette*, July 5) is from the Rev. Father Hull, S. J., the learned Editor of *The Examiner*, an Englishman living amongst Germans and influenced by his surroundings. This letter has been partly answered by "A Loyal British Subject" (*vide* his letter, *Bombay Gazette* July 10), but there are other points which need to be touched upon. Both the late Dr. Meurin and Dr. Dalhoff were Germans, but it is difficult to enter into a discussion on delicate matters involving comparisons. Dr. Meurin's marvellous conversational powers, dialectical skill and versatile genius won him a distinguished place in Bombay, and he was loved and honoured as a unique personality. In spite of this, I doubt very much if he exercised that influence which an Englishman of his high standing and many-sided activities would have done. No doubt the English officials treat all dignitaries with courtesy and considerations. His Highness the Aga Khan receives the same attention as the foreign ecclesiastics. But an Englishman is an Englishman; he appeals to their national feelings and sentiments. To say, therefore, foreigners are as agreeable and influential as an Englishman is to make a large draft upon one's credulity, As in England so in India, the Englishman is the same. He looks upon India as the land of his exile, and his heart goes out to his fellow-exiles, the ties of race are drawn closer, the circle of friends and relatives is narrowed down. Englishmen form a society by themselves. The fact that whereas the late Dr. Porter was invited and received as a guest of the first gentleman of the Presidency—I mean his Excellency the Governor—no German prelate, however distinguished for learning, wisdom or philanthropy, has ever been so honoured, if it proves anything, proves that an Englishman is more esteemed, more honoured, and more trusted than a foreigner. He gains friends, widens his acquaintance and feels at home amongst his own. As regards his influence to secure benefits for Catholics, surely if an English prelate is on friendly terms with the Governor and the members of his Excellency's Council he can draw the more easily the attention of the authorities to oversights. He can put in the claims of worthy members of his flock to Government patronage. How the Catholic community has been lost sight of may be judged from the following few facts. In the Legislative Council no Indian Catholic has ever been nominated, although members of every other nationality have been so honoured from time to time. It cannot be said that there are no Catholics in the diocese or in the Bombay Presidency fit to be appointed as additional members of his Excellency's Council for making laws and regulations. I am sure had the Most Rev. Dr. Porter lived to this day he would have influenced his Excellency the Governor to take into consideration the claims of the community. In the Municipal Corporation of Bombay no Catholic is a Government nominee—a matter of surprise, seeing that members of other communities represent Government in the Council. If Catholics can be elected by ratepayers and the Justices of the Peace to represent their interests, it proves that they are able to discharge civic duties satisfactorily. That they have received no attention at the hands of Government leads one to suppose that they are looked upon as "aliens" because they are under the spiritual sway of non-English prelates. As regards the late Dr. Porter, it should be borne in mind, in the first instance, that his "regime" was a short one. Nevertheless, within that short period the Catholics individually were cognisant of the advantages obtained through him. The agitation is not based on pure sentiment. Catholics know what advantages are derivable from an Englishman being at the head of the diocese.

The late Dr. Porter came out to India at an advanced age; he had moreover, to put up in a dwelling which from a sanitary point of view, was regarded as highly undesirable being badly ventilated and situated in a narrow street with busy traffic. Things have changed since then; a palatial building, roomy and airy, has been erected as the Archbishop's residence. The future Archbishop is no longer to live in the stuffy atmosphere of Medows-treet.

Much seems to have been said about acclimatisation and local experience. A few facts will prove that these considerations need not have much weight. Civilians and other English-men come fresh from England and have to serve in outlying districts. They have survived the test of climate and discharge their duties satisfactorily without having previously had local experience. The Anglican Bishop of Bombay comes out directly from England and discharges his duties satisfactorily. The Bishops of Damaun, Cochin, and Mylapur come out direct from Europe: they have done and are doing their duties creditably and satisfactorily though they have had no previous experience of India. The Archbishop of Goa and Primate of the East has been directly nominated from Portugal and the administrative abilities displayed by him, despite want of previous Indian experience are a case in point.

Further cases can be cited to show that the Archbishop of Bombay need not have Indian experience. It is therefore, to be hoped that Englismen will not shrink from duty once imposed. They are not to be deterred by bug-bears such as Father Hull has raised. The same ability they have displayed as servants of the Crown of England will be displayed as administrators of Indian dioceses. It is a foregone conclusion that an Englishmen who is singularly gifted with administrative ability will not be found wanting as Archbishop of Bombay. Further the Archdiocese of Bombay has a Curia composed of men specially selected for their knowledge of local affairs. In addition to these counsellors, the Archbishop has the assistance of his Vicar-General. He is moreover guided and helped by his secretary and if he is a man of ability and tact, he is bound to be successful. The arguments advanced by Father Hull, therefore carry no weight. It must not be supposed that German Fathers here are acquainted with the vernaculars and dialects of the people. If they can reach the people through the medium of English surely an Englishmen can do so with much more success. The rest of the points are dealt with in the accompanying cuttings from *The Gazette*.

Floriline:—For the Teeth and Breath.—A few drop of the liquid Floriline sprinkled on a wet tooth brush produce a pleasant odour, which thoroughly cleanse the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline" being composed in parts of Honey and sweet herbs is delicious to the taste and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Of all Chemists and Perfumers Wholesale depot, 88, Farringdon Road London England.

NOTES FROM KATHIAWAR.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

RAJKOTE, March 18.

After all, as was fully expected, the claim of "Ranji" to the Gadi of Navanagar has been recognised by Government and he is placed upon the Gadi of Navanagar by Mr. P. S. V. FitzGerald, C. S. I., the Agent to the Governor in Kathiawar, with due honours and invested with the powers of a first class Chief. It was in 1879 that Jam Saheb Ranjitsinghi was adoptod as heir to the Gadi by the late Jam Saheb Vibhaji, but in consequence of the birth of the late Jam Saheb his adoption was set aside in 1884. Ranjitsingji thus gets the Gadi after a period of 27 years. Most of these years he had passed in England where his high character, his courage and frank and manly behaviour secured him a number of friends; and he has had the good sense to move in the best of Society. This greatly helped forward his cause which was, however, kept up before Government from time to time by his brother Devisingji and General Sir Pratabsingji, the Maharaja of Idar, who took a very great interest in him. The late Maharaja of Patiala was also a great friend of his. Had time permitted a large number of Chiefs from Rajputana would have put in an appearance. H. H. the Maharaja of Alwar had, however, managed to arrive, notwithstanding very brief notice. Except the Chiefs of Morvie, Gondal, Dhrole and Limdi, all the first and second class Chiefs now on the Gadi were present at the installation. H. H. the Rao Saheb of Kutch had also arrived from Sirohi whither he had been on the occasion of the marriage of the heir-apparent, but hearing of the death of his step-mother he left immediately, not, however, without tendering his personal congratulations to the Jam Saheb and presenting him with the sword of honour which is generally presented to the Jams of Navanagar as their recognitions as such by the Raos of Kutch, the head of the Jadeja Clan of Rajputs.

Congratulatory gifts from a very large number of Chiefs were received from all parts of India, including one from H. H. the Gaekwar of Baroda.

Such a grand Installation Darbar has never been witnessed in Kathiawar before, and this testifies to the unbounded popularity of H. H. the Jam Saheb Ranjitsinghji. 2,000 congratulatory messages were received from all parts of the world, and the one that was most appreciate was from H. E. Lord Lamington, the Governor of Bombay, which was read out at the Darbar.

The address of the Agent to the Governor was most liked and highly applauded by all those present, since the Agent, though a very shrewd diplomat, speaks out his mind freely when occasion demands, and the very sound and disinterested piece of advice that he has given the Jam Saheb will, it is to be hoped, never be lost upon him. Indeed, the Jam Saheb's reply runs equally re-assuring and it showed that he felt very thankful to the Agent for what he said.

An incident in connection with the Darbar is worth mentioning. The people of Navanagar were never happy during the period of British management. Nor were they so during the late *regime* and consequently wished to speak out their views rather freely in an address which they wished to present to the Jam Saheb. They feared that they would not be allowed to speak out, but felt considerably relieved when they found their grievances carefully listened to with a view to their being redressed.

Plague is prevalent in Navanagar at present and the Jam Saheb has expressed a wish to build huts outside the town.

Following the example of Jaswan, Government wish to keep all small Talukas intact and among the Kathis the rule of primogeniture will now hold good. Azao Laxman Vala of Thana Devli, a Katti Chief, is allowed to adopt an heir, and the *Kathiawar News* says he has already adopted Umra Vala, son of Kala Bhan of Luni, a Talukdar. The boy is studying in the Rajkumar College, and is about ten years old.

It is intended to place shortly the minor Chief of Palitana in the Rajkumar College.

Mr. Laud, the Rajkot State Manager, has availed himself of three months' leave. He is not likely to return, but will retire from service as his health has quite failed. The Agent will be pleased, I hope, to place a very strong man in charge of this State which requires close and careful attention.

It is now almost a year that the Agent has been in Kathiawar, and during this short time he has succeeded in enhancing the prestige of the Agency considerably. His relations with the Chiefs are most cordial, such as were scarcely before; and the secret of his success is that he does not stand so much upon dignity, as upon tact and powers of persuasion. He respects the rights of the Chiefs and wishes them to respect the rights of the Agency; and consequently they are all so much pleased with him. And although he is very striet he is much liked and respected, and all of them regard him as their true friend. I might also mention that since he has been Agent corruption and intrigne are considerably on the wane because those who deal in them have the sense to realize that nothing escapes his eagle eye and that he is a dangerous man to offend. When he arrived, the administration in certain States and Talukas was little short of scandalous, but matters have quite changed since. He stands no nonsense and nobody dare trille with him.

It is understood that the 123rd Outram's Rifles stationed here will stay on for another year.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Delamain is proceeding this week on eight months' furlongh to Europe. During his absence Major A. Dennys will be in Command of the Regiment.

MILLIONAIRES IN EMBRYO.

To America in Search of Wealth.

ENTERPRISE OF THREE ADVENTUROUS LADS.

Isaac Reuben (16) Soloman Joseph (15) and Norman Lafrenois (14), Jews and Eurasian, living at Mazagon, Bombay, were suddenly seized on Monday last with a desire to go to America and make their fortunes. It seems they had read and heard much about the multi-millionaires of America. The three lads planned that one of them should be a Carnegie, the other a Pierpont Morgan and the third a Roekefeller. They dreamed choktaws, tomahawks, squaws and scalps and they decided to become Buffalo Bills on their own initiature. These youngsters thought they could easily travel, if not over the whole, world, at least a part of it with very little money, as they heard of European globe trotters starting to go round the world without a penny in their pockets. So one of the three boys armed himself with his father's revolver, thinking it would come in handy in case they met wild animals on their way to America. Another lad, it is said, took some of his father's money, in fact all he could lay his hands on. The third possessed himself of a supply of biscuits, sweets, bread and eggs as he could find in hisfather's pantry, and he was placed in charge of the Commissariat Department of the expedition bound for America in search of wealth. These adventurous youngsters felt that India was too small a field in which to try their fortune.

Thus proudly equipped the excited youngsters left their homes secretly late on the evening of Monday last, and walked as for as Byculla with their luggage and kit on their backs, os full of dreams of wealth in the New World. Coming up to the Byculla Railway Station they purchased tickets for Karachi from whence they had determined to proceed to America. Thus, full of enthusiasm and hope, they left Bombay.

But these lads did not seem to have thought of the alarm of their parents and guardians, who on missing them suddenly from home without any reason, communicated with the police. For three days no one could imagine where the lads could have gone to. The secret leaked out eventually owing to one of they boys having expressed his desire to one of his friends, to proceed to Karachi to go to America.

On this information telegrams were forwarded to Karachi, and at last the youths were taken charge of by the police there whence they have been sent back to Bombay.

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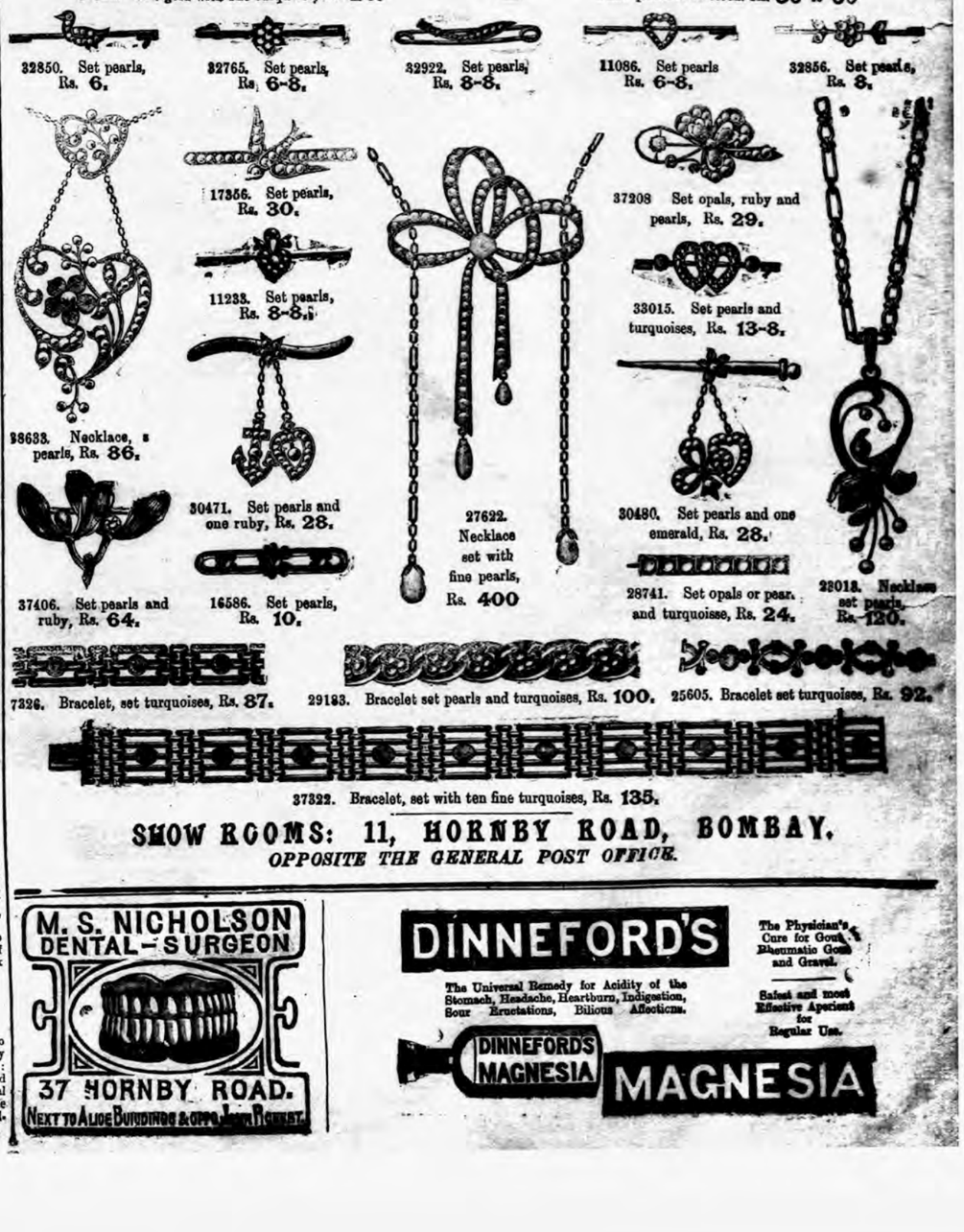

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32765. Set pearls, Rs. 6-8.

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11086. Set pearls Rs. 6-8.

32856. Set pearls, Rs. 8.

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37208 Set opals, ruby and pearls, Rs. 29.

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33015. Set pearls and turquoises, Rs. 13-8.

38633. Necklace, s pearls, Rs. 86.

30471. Set pearls and one ruby, Rs. 28.

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30480. Set pearls and one emerald, Rs. 28.

28741. Set opals or pear. and turquoisse, Rs. 24.

22018. Necklace set pearls Rs. 120.

37406. Set pearls and ruby, Rs. 64.

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HOME...

[SPECIALLY PREPARED BUDGET.]

LONDON, MARCH 8.

THE WEEK'S MAIL SUMMARY.

HOME.

Court and Personal.—The King left London on Monday for Biarritz, spent the night in Paris, and reached Biarritz on Tuesday. The King has promised signed photographs to the mayors of the capitals of the five Colonies taking part in the South African Exhibition. —The Prince and Princess of Wales will open the new Clydebank Dock on April 25.—Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain left London on Sunday for the Riviera.—Sir B. Boothby has been appointed Minister at Santiago.

An Explosion of Gas occurred on Tuesday night at a colliery near Llanelly, by which four men were entombed, and two others who went to their rescue lost their lives.

Ecclesiastical.—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have issued their annual report.—The Royal Commission on the Church in Wales has held further sittings. On Friday a discussion between the chairman and Professor Jones led to the room's being cleared. Changes in the personnel of the Commission are foreshadowed.—The Archbishop of Canterbury presided at a meeting of the Additional Curates Society last week, and Lord Milner at a meeting of the South African Church Railway Mission on Monday.—The National Council of the Evangelical Free Churches was opened at Leeds on Tuesday, and was continued on Wednesday, Professor Rendel Harris presiding.

Ireland.—Mr. Justice Kenny, at Leitrim Assizes on Monday, said that a certain district was in a very lawless state.—A Government inquiry into the sanitary condition of Belfast has been opened.—A meeting to defend the interests of Trinity College, Dublin, was held on Saturday at Calus College, Cambridge.

Law.—The Master of the Rolls has been appointed to be a Lord of Appeal, being succeeded by Lord Justice Cozens-Hardy.—Mr. Justice Kennedy has been appointed a Lord Justice, Mr. W. Pickford taking his place in the High Court.—A High Court judgment in favour of an Algiers club manager, who sued on a cheque given to repay a loan for gambling losses, has been reversed. The Court has also cancelled an award of £1,000 for libel.—Mr. F. Gilchrist, who, a year ago, was found to be insane has now been declared sane.—A cab-driver has obtained £500 from the owners of a motor omnibus for injuries caused by a collision.—The accused West Ham guardians and officials have been committed for trial.

London.—The County Council elections have given the Moderates a majority nearly as large as that of the Progressives three years ago.—Lord Rosebery protests against the erection of any more lunatic asylums at Epsom.

Natal.—The Navy Estimates show a reduction of 1,000 men and £1,437,000.—Admiral Sir A. K. Wilson has been made Admiral of the Fleet. Vice-Admirals the Prince of Wales and P. Aldrich become Admirals.—A Court-martial has severely reprimanded Captain Kingsmill and Lieutenant Noake for the stranding of the battleship Dominion.

Parliament.—In the House of Lords on February 28 there was some discussion on the London traffic question. On March 4 the Aveling & Porter Companies Bill was read a second time.—In the House of Commons on February 28 the Army debate was continued by Mr. Churchill, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Haldane, and Mr. Keir Hardie. The Metropolitan Water Board's Bill was read a second time, by 213 to 44. On March 1 the Scottish Education (Provision of Meals) Bill was read a second time by 227 to 52 and referred to a Standing Committee. The Government measure embodying the non-contentious clauses of last year's Education Bill also obtained a second reading. On the 4th Mr. Haldane introduced his Bill to reorganize the Army. On the 5th Mr. Robertson made his naval statement, and Mr. Balfour joined in the debate. An English Sunday Closing Bill was talked out. On the 6th, Mr. Haldane obtained a supplementary vote for the Army, and a resolution was carried calling for a more vigorous application of the Railway Regulation (Hours of Labour) Act.

Political.—Mr. J. M. Fuller, M.P., has been appointed Vice-Chamberlain in his Majesty's Household, and Mr. J. H. Whitley, M. P., a Junior Lord of the Treasury unpaid. Mr. Whitley has been re-elected unopposed at Halifax.—Mr. McKenna spoke at Marlow last week on his Religious Instruction Bill.—The Prime Minister on Tuesday received a deputation who urged the taking of a national anthropometric survey.—Sir H. Campbell Bannerman has an article in the *Nation* on the limitation of armaments which is unfavourably criticised in France.

The Birmingham Shorthorn Show was opened in Bingley-hall, Birmingham, on Wednesday. There were 775 entries, the largest number on record.

The Channel Tunnel Company had a meeting on Wednesday at Charing-cross.

The Hackney Horse Show was opened on Tuesday at the Agricultural-hall. The number of entries was the largest on record. Judging in the stallion classes was completed.

The Lord Mayor presided on Wednesday over a meeting of citizens and ratepayers at the Guildhall, at which a resolution of protest against the Charges Bill of the Metropolitan Water Board was carried.

Universities.—Lord Rosebery has accepted nomination to the Chancellorship of Oxford, and the Duke of Devonshire has been elected to that of Manchester University.

Wills.—The text of Lady Burdett-Coutt's will is published.—Mr. C. J. Oldham, surgeon, has left large sums for education and to hospitals.

The Associated Chamber of Commerce have held their annual meeting in London, Sir W. Holland, M. P., presiding.

THE EMPIRE.

Australia.—The mail syndicate, having failed in negotiations with the Federal Government, are trying to get a guarantee on their debentures from the States.

Canada.—The Government is bringing in a tentative Old-Age Pension Bill.—A postal conference with representatives of the United States is being held at Ottawa.

Newfoundland.—The Government proposes the adoption of a contract for a weekly transatlantic service of 17-knot steamers.

The Transvaal.—The Cabinet was sworn in on Monday as follows :—Premier and Minister of Agriculture, General Botha ; Colonial Secretary, Mr. Smuts ; Attorney-General and Minister of Mines, Mr. J. de Villiers ; Treasurer, Mr. Hull ; Minister of Lands and Native Affairs, Mr. Rissik ; and Minister of Public Works, Mr. E. Solomon. Our Correspondent says that the Boer representatives are evidently determined not to begin by making enemies, and people are ready to give them a fair start.—Sir B. Solomon's assumption of office is probably only postponed.

THE UNITED STATES.

Congress ended on Monday. The Ship Subsidy Bill was killed in the Senate.

California.—The State Legislature has passed a Bill, aimed at the Japanese, virtually preventing aliens from holding land.

The Standard Oil Trial began at Chicago on Monday.

FOREIGN.

Bulgaria.—A great outdoor meeting of the Opposition, at which more than 10,000 persons were present, was held on Sunday at Sofia, and passed resolutions denouncing the Government.

Egypt.—The National Assembly has carried resolutions demanding a Parliament, a municipality for Cairo, and the use of Arabic as the sole means of instruction in Government schools.

France.—The announced publication of Mgr. Montagnini's papers seem to have occasioned a panic in Vatican circles, and counter-revelations are threatened. The Pope, it is said, will refuse all Peter's Peace from France, wishing French Catholics to keep their resources for their own clergy.—The proposed abolition of capital punishment is encountering considerable resistance.—The Government is expected to propose a Bill for a tunnel under Mont Blanc.

Germany.—The debate on the estimates ended on Tuesday. The debate on supplementary estimates for South-West Africa began on Wednesday. A Socialist member referred to Pan-German intrigues against Great Britain, especially in connexion with South Africa. The Grand Dukes of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz intend to introduce constitutional government in their Grand Duchies.—Our Paris Correspondent hears that Germany is working to make the Baltic a "mare clausum" by the neutralization of the Danish straits.

Japan.—The prospect of an Anglo-Russian "entente" is heartily welcomed in Japan.—The new phase of the California question is deeply resented, but the Press remains calm.—Reuter states that the new Japanese loan of £23,000,000 will be issued in the course of a few days.

Russia.—The new Duma was opened on Tuesday. M. Golovin, Constitutional Democrat, was elected President by 336 votes to 102. The Socialist groups if they act unitedly, will be stronger than any other party. It is believed that the forces of reaction are only awaiting a pretext for dealing constitutional reform a crushing blow. A law is said to have been drafted restricting the suffrage, and reducing the Duma to a consultative assembly. However, M. Golovin has expressed himself hopefully. He was on Wednesday received very graciously by the Tsar.

OBITUARY.—Sir F. Plunkett ; Lady Ripon ; Sir August Manns ; Colonel Sir Henry Hozier ; Sir F. T. Darby ; Sir F. Wigan ; Sir C. B. Logan ; Miss Rosina Brandram ; Mr. Hodgson Pratt ; Mr. D. Sullivan, M. P. Dr. Allan Macfadyen ; Sir R. G. Head ; Herr Otto Hegner ; Mr. Kala Churn Baserji ; Mr. John Finnie ; Mr. J. W. Barclay ; Mr. C. Bertram.—*Times.*

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT.

THE INDIAN CO... ACT. ...ENDMENT

In the House of Commons on Monday, March 4, Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for India : Whether the Government of India has made any report to the India Office upon the working of Clause 3 of the Indian Contract Act Amendment Act, whereby special reference was made in illustration (b) to the case of the Indian agriculturist ; and whether, if the answer be in the negative, he will ask the said Government to call for reports from provincial administrations upon this subject.

Mr. Morley : The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. I am afraid that formal reports of the nature suggested would involve a laborious examination of the decisions of courts of all grades, and as at present advised I doubt the necessity for calling for them from the local governments. But I will ask the Government of India to let me have any information on the subject which may be available.

INDIA AND THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for India ; Whether the Army Estimates, in so far as they effect the Indian taxpayer, are settled by the War Office without communication with the India Office.

Mr. Morley : The Army Estimates of the Home Government seldom affect the Indian taxpayer, and they are therefore ordinarily prepared without communication with the India Office. On exceptional occasions, when provision is made for a measure (such as an increase in the rate of pay of British soldiers) appreciably affecting the Indian taxpayer, the Secretary of State for India is consulted. No necessity for any such consideration has arisen in the present year.

Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for India : Whether the Army Estimates, in so far as they relate to India make the usual provision for the protection of the Indian Empire, of its Anglo-Indian and British-Indian inhabitants, and of the British-Indian frontiers.

Mr. C. Hobhouse : The answer is in the affirmative.

LASCARS AS SEAMEN.

Mr. Kearley informed Mr. Ashley that he had no official information in regard to the statement that when the Austrian-Lloyd steamer *Imperatrice* was wrecked on the coast of Crete the Lascars who were members of the crew became panic-stricken and were with difficulty kept in order by their officers. It had not been found necessary to lay down regulations prescribing the proportion of Europeans to Lascars carried on British ships. Many instances were on record of conspicuous gallantry at sea on the part of Lascars the majority of whom were British subjects.

Mr. Ashley : Is the hon. gentleman aware that Lascars are not able physically to stand against the rigors of the English climate ?

Mr. Kearley : Some of these acts of heroism have been performed in cold climates.

NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC INDIGOS.

Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for India : Whether tests recently made by experts at Cawnpore regarding the relative merits of natural and synthetic indigos, resulted in proving the superiority in all respects of the natural dye ; and, if so, whether he will take steps to make generally known these results, in order to counteract reported results of laboratory tests to the contrary effect, widely published, to the detriment of an important British-Indian industry.

Mr. Morley : I have not heard that such tests have been made at Cawnpore. The Indian newspapers so far as we can ascertain, make no reference to the subject.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES IN INDIA.

Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for India : Whether he will lay Papers showing the progress of co-operative credit societies in India ; and whether success has attended this new departure.

Mr. Morley : I have received from the Government of India a memorandum, based on the published reports of the provincial registrars showing the progress made and I shall be happy to lay it on the table if may hon. friend will move for it. The figures indicate satisfactory progress. The Government of India report that general interest in the movement has been displayed by all classes.

INSUFFICIENT PROVISION OF RAILWAY WAGGONS.

Mr. Rees asked the Secretary of State for India : Whether, in view of the bumper crop of rice seeds and wheat the budget allotment of 382 lacs of rupees for railway waggons has been wholly expended, and will be followed, notwithstanding the reduction of the total provision for railways, by a larger estimate for the coming financial year ; and whether two mills at Howrah have recently been closed owing to the want of sufficient waggons for coal traffic.

Mr. Morley : I am unable to state how much of the current year's allotment for provision of rolling-stock has so far been expended. The grant for 1907-1908 is, as stated in my replies to recent questions, larger than that for the current year, notwithstanding the reduction in the total provision for railways. I have seen a statement in the public press that two mills at Howrah have recently been closed owing to the want of sufficient waggons for coal traffic, but I have no other information on the subject.

GAOL TREATMENT OF THE EDITOR OF THE "PUNJABI."

Dr Rutherford asked the Secretary of State for India : Whether he has any official reports showing that the proprietor and the editor of the "Punjabee" were handcuffed and chained, compelled to grind Indian corn, and otherwise maltreated in gaol ; and whether he will give orders that no political prisoners shall receive such treatment in the future.

Mr. Morley : So far as I am at present aware, the proprietor and editor of the "Punjabi" were after conviction, treated in all respects as ordinary prisoners. I am making inquiry, and expect further information as to details.

THE BAGHDAD RAILWAY.

Tuesday, March 5.—Mr. Ashley asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs : If he will request the British Ambassador at Constantinople to obtain information as to whether the Baghdad Railway is being extended beyond Bulgurlu ; and whether any kilometric guarantee for any further extension has been given to the promoters by the Turkish Government.

Sir E. Grey : It is not necessary to send special instructions on this subject. The interest attaching to it is fully recognised, and information, when available is of course, furnished to his Majesty's Government. I think I may also add that it generally appears in the Press.

PRIVILEGE LEAVE PAY.

Sir Seymour King asked the Secretary of State for India : Whether he has yet received a reply from the Government of India as to the desirability of allowing officers on combined leave in this country to draw their privilege-leave pay at the home Treasury ; and, if so, what decision has been come to.

Mr. Morley : The Government of India have recommended that officers on combined leave under the civil leave rules shall have the option of drawing their privilege pay at the home Treasury. I have decided to adopt this recommendation.

INDIA AND THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

Sir William Bull asked the Secretary of State for India : If the Government proposes that the status and treatment of his Majesty's Indian subjects in the Colonies shall receive due consideration at the approaching Imperial Conference.

Mr. Morley : The Conference is a conference with self-governing colonies. The principle on which the agenda were drawn up gives priority to subjects that a majority of the Governments taking part have intimated their desire to discuss. The subject to which the hon. member refers is not included ; but should opportunity offer and time permit I would propose to invite the Conference to consider it.

THE PRINCIPALSHIP OF THE CALCUTTA MADRASAH.—

Dr. Hazel asked the Secretary of State for India: Whether Dr. E. Denison Ross still holds the appointment of principal of the Calcutta Madrasah ; if so, whether the services of a competent Oriental scholar have been secured to carry on the duties of that office during the absence of Dr. Ross in England on leave ; and what are the educational qualifications of the gentleman selected and the reasons for his selection.

Mr. Morley : I understand that Dr. Denison Ross still holds the appointment of Principal of the Calcutta Madrasah. I do not know what arrangements the local government proposes to make in the event of his taking leave for filling his place temporarily.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, INDIA.

Thursday, March 7. Sir Henry Cotton asked the Secretary of State for India : If he will state the total number of officers appointed from England to the Public Works Department in India during each of the past ten years, and the number and percentage of Indians so appointed each year.

Mr. Morley : The information asked for is contained in the following tables :—

Total number of assistant engineers appointed from England to the Public Works Department in India during each of the last ten years, and the number and percentage of natives of India so appointed.

Year.	Total Number of Assistant Engineers appointed from England.	Number of Natives of India appointed from England.	Percentage of Natives of India.
1897	13	1	7·70
1898	12	—	—
1899	15	1	6·67
1900	13	1	7·70
1901	21	1	4·76
1902	25	2	8·00
1903	29	2	6·89
1904	31	2	6·45
1905	39	1	2·56
1906	61	4	6·45

It has been decided that Indians should be eligible for appointment from England subject to a maximum limit of ten per cent. I trust that the number of Indian qualified under the rules who will apply for appointments will be such as to permit this limit to be worked up to. The honourable gentleman is doubtless aware that the ordinary means of access for Indians to the ... that the ordinary means of access for Indians to Engineering Con... Department is through the Indian

Sir Henry Cotton asked the Secretary ... State for India : Whether it is proposed to appoint any properly qualified Indian from England to the Public Works Department in India during the year 1907.

Mr. Morley : It was decided in 1905 that natives of India should be eligible for appointment from England, subject to a maximum limit of ten per cent. ; this decision does not come into force till 1908 ; but one native of India, belonging properly to the batch of appointments of 1907, has been already appointed in advance, after a shortened period of training, in consequence of the closing of Coopers Hill College.

GREAT BRITAIN AND ISLAM.

Interview With the Sultan of Turkey.

To many Englishmen it is a source of deep regret that for a long time past England has not enjoyed that prestige and popularity in Turkey to which her past traditions and her material interests in the country fairly entitle her, and this for more than sentimental reasons.

The Sultan of Turkey is the spiritual chief of the entire Mahommedan world, of which many millions live under English rule, Turkey possesses a million soldiers, who are commonly reputed to be the bravest in the world. These, under certain eventualities, might become England's allies again, as they have been in the past. Moreover, motives of an economic nature point to our interest in standing well with Turkey and her Sovereign, since under his rule great progress has been made in opening up the wealth of the country. We are now only at the beginning of what is destined to be a far-reaching movement in exploiting the economic possibilities of Asia Minor.

Others are busy reaping where England has sown, and it is certainly to our detriment in more ways than one that this should be so. It is true that the dry statistics of England's commerce still top the list of Turkey's exports and imports, but a feeling prevails among the Turks that England is no longer as of yore Turkey's powerful and unselfish friend. As a distinguished Turkish dignitary said to me sadly ten years ago, "England was once to us a garden in which Englishmen were the comely flowers, but now a serpent has stolen upon the scene—the serpent of calumny."

OUR LOST INFLUENCE.

This, however, is not the place to dilate upon the causes of the unwelcome change in the relationship of the two countries, but rather to re-echo the desire existing in many places for a better understanding.

For a long time a better understanding was rendered impossible owing to causes and circumstances upon which it is now useless to dwell. Now, however, that England possesses a diplomatic representative at Constantinople who is liked and respected by the Turk who places the broader interests of his country above the prejudices of a passionate and ignorant section of his countrymen, and who can be firm when occasion arises without habitually flouting the ruler whom he desires to influence by friendly means, it is possible to hope for better things.

Nor can there be any doubt that the present moment is a signally propitious one for England to regain some of the influence wantonly lost in Turkey in the past.

Recent political events outside Turkey have made a deep impression upon the thoughtful Turk, notably the victory of Japan over Russia, and the German Emperor's visit to Tangier and its consequences at Algeciras. These events have had an enlightening, as well as a robbering, disenchanting effect, the out come of which in many places has been the conviction that, after all, in the long run, Turkey has more to gain from friendship with England than with any other Power. Hence the desire to see a better feeling prevail between England and Turkey ; all the more so since others who have stepped into England's place have of late shown signs of an endeavour to over-reach and to dominate, which is peculiarly galling to a proud race. The feeling is growing among the Turks that others are presuming too much on the supposed friendliness of the Sultan. An element of aggressive selfishness has been detected of late which repels and antagonises. Now is England's opportunity.

A POPULAR SULTAN.

The desire for a better understanding is heartily reciprocated in Turkey by many Englishmen living there. They deplore the attitude of moral superiority which in the past certain English officials, unable to appreciate the better qualities or the Turkish character have only too often allowed themselves to adopt in dealing with the Turkish Government. But, in order that these good wishes should bear fruit, it must be understood once and for all that our endeavours to improve our relations with Turkey are foredoomed to failure unless we are prepared to recognise that for all practical purposes the Sultan stands before the world to-day more than ever for Turkey.

To-day the Sultan is the undisputed master of the situation in the eyes of his subjects who have conferred upon him the title of Ghazi, the victorious—once held by brave Osman, of Plevna fame. Those who persist in ignoring and misrepresenting these facts are doing England and Turkey small service, while they are only delighting the hearts of England's commercial and political rivals the political side of this rivalry being as yet carefully kept out of sight.

It is untrue that the Sultan is unpopular in Turkey. The truth is that Abdul Ahmed is the most popular Sultan the Turks have had since Mahmud II. Even where the Turks themselves may not approve of certain things, they strongly resent European interference, which is usually brought about by mendacious representations filtered through the Turcophobe English Press. These facts have long been throughly well known and acted upon in every diplomatic chancery in Constantinople except our own.

Many years ago—as years count in the autumn of human life—the Sultan made me a tempting offer to enter his service. On my explaining to him why I was obliged to decline a brilliant position, his Majesty replied. "If you feel you cannot enter my service, I hope at least you will come back soon to Constantinople and visit me as a friend."

On several subsequent occasions business of one kind or another has brought me back to Constantinople, and never have I left the city without either receiving a kindly message from, or enjoying an hour's chat with the Sultan of Turkey. Indeed I may say that his Majesty's steadfast remembrance of what he was pleased to term a service I had once rendered him put to shame the time-honoured proverb of the ingratitude of princes. Not dazzling wealth or even powerful position forms a passport to this monarch's regard but good will—proven services rendered to himself and his country. These before now have raised a humble porter to princely rank.

Being in Constantinople a few days ago, I caused my presence to be notified to his Majesty, and in consequence received an invitation to attend the ceremony of the Selamik on the following Friday, with an intimation that he wished me to remain at the Palace after the parade. He hoped to receive me, if possible, I was informed, in private audience. In due course I was ushered into the waiting room of the unpretentious one storied kiosk in which the Sultan receives his visitors quite alone, except for the presence of an interpreter, who is usually, but not always the Grand Master of Ceremonies and introducer of Ambassadors. I asked after his Majesty's health, for the Sultan looked well, and I ventured to hint as much.

Yes, he replied, he was glad to say that he felt exceedingly well, and except for a slight indisposition a few days ago he had never felt better.

KINDLY AND REFINED.

The Sultan is a man of medium height—though statelineess of bearing and the possession of power in life and death are apt to add some inches to a man's stature in the eyes of a beholder. There is, moreover, a distinct air of refinement, coupled with kindliness in the expression of his features as he receives his visitors standing clad in a Turkish general's uniform, half hidden by a grey military cloak. As he sits down, he motions has visitor to a seat opposite him. His hands are clasped on the hilt of his sword, and he wears noticed, one ring only, a beautiful ruby, cut "en sabachon." The diamond star of the Imtias Order is suspended from his collar.

Contrary to general belief, the Sultan's interests in the outside world are exceedingly keen and varied. Some years ago the Turkish Ambassador in London was obliged to ransack the art shops of the West End in search of an elaborate work on Australian birds which the Sultan desired ; at another time it is some musical composition he is in want of. He takes particular interest regularly in perusing the English illustrated papers.

One of the Sultan's secretaries has the task allotted him of translating the English letter-press under the illustrations into Turkish, so that his Majesty may know what they are all about.

When conversing with politicians, the Sultan reverts to the struggles and rivalries of nations, Japan, Russia, and the United States, and their latest doings interest him keenly. The Jews are a race for whom the Sultan has always entertained a kindly feeling, and he believes they are yet destined to play a great part in the world. It goes without saying that he has an even greater faith regarding the future of his own countrymen, particularly if they remain true to the precepts of conduct inculcated by Mohammed in the Koran.

When speaking to a friend, a kindly interest in that friend's personal fortunes, be they never so humble, is sure to be among his Majesty's concerns.

"What have you been doing since I saw you last ? How is the world using you ? Well, I hope. Have you written anything recently ? Be sure and send it to me, for I would like to read it."—Sydney Whitman, in the *Daily Mail*.

THE SITUATION IN EUROPE.

Russia.

St. Petersburg, March 1.—The formal election of six deputies for the city of St. Petersburg took place to-day. The candidates named by the Constitutional Democrats—M. Hessen, M. Kutler, M. Struhve, M. Pocdoroff, and Father Petroff—were duly returned by 151 out of 175 votes, the remainder being cast for the nominee of the workmen, to whom the Constitutional Democrats gave a seat.

St. Petersburg, March 3 (*Reuter*).—Fifteen hundred picked police from every quarter of the city surrounded the Polytechnic Institute at seven o'clock this morning and carried out a search of three blocks of the students' quarters, in the course of which twelve infernal machines and between a dozen and twenty pyroxiline hand-grenades were found, as well as ten repeating rifles and two pounds of dynamite. In the course of the search, which occupied until tow o'clock this afternoon fifteen persons not students of the institute were arrested among them being several women.

Reval, March 2.—Baron Budberg, formerly chief of the Estonian nobility and a member of the Council of the Empire, was set upon by six unknown men while driving with some servants from his seat at Wannamoit to an outlying property. Baron Budberg and one of the servants were killed and their pockets rifled. The cocahman was wounded.

Tiflis, March 2.—The chief of the "gendarmerie" of the Transcaucasian Railway was shot dead in the street here to-day by an unknown man.

Sebastopol, March 2.—A young man who was arrested to-day at the railway station shot dead a gendarme and mortally wounded a guard. The prisoner was taken to the police station, where he produced a revolver and, after shooting a policeman dead, jumped out of the window. In the street he seriously wounded a guard, but was recaptured, and committed suicide by shooting himself three times with his revolver.

GENERAL KUROPATKIN'S BOOK.

St. Petersburg, March 3.—General Kuropatkin's book on the war evokes some interesting commentaries. The editor of the "Novoe Vremya" discloses the substance of his conversations with General Kuropatkin and Count Witte. The former is alleged to be not only convinced that the war if it had been continued would have ended successfully, but that sooner or later the conflict will be renewed. The latter refutes these views by reminding the editor of the "Novoe Vremya" that Russia is unable to defeat Japan without a fleet. The "Slovo" publishes the significant statement that Russia is unable to reinforce Vladivostock except by sea because she cannot transport additional men or munitions over the Manchurian railway. An official announcement is made showing that the Russian forces are rapidly evacuating Northern Manchuria. The newspapers draw attention to the rapid arrival of Chinese troops.

The *Times* correspondent telegraphs on March 4 :—A singular calm prevails on the eve of the opening of the Duma. The contrast with the corresponding period last year is complete. The political parties of all shades appear to be profoundly conscious of the gravity of the task before them. The Socialists and the Constitutional Democrats vie in counsels of prudence and moderation. To the uninitiated this may seem too remarkable a change for the Extreme Left to be more than superficial. The fact is that beneath surface treacherous currents are at play. Neither Press nor public ventures to say openly what is in everybody's mind—namely, that the forces of reaction are mobilised, and are only awaiting a pretext for dealing constitutional reform a crushing blow. Whispers of a plot to dissolve the second Duma and proclaim a military dictatorship have been current ever since the return of a majority of Opposition deputies became known. Men in the Guard regiments have been sedulously "coached." The inspired organs openly declare that the Czar's absence from the opening ceremonies has an ominous significance for the Duma. The Centre party of the Council of the Empire is discussing in secret conclave how to assure legislative work without the Duma. The Union of the Russian People has been officially amalgamated with the reactionary Nobles' Union.

The deputies of the second Duma are all more or less awake to the peril indicated by these sinister symptoms, and a realisation of their common danger compels that calm which is noticeable in St. Petersburg to-day.

The second Duma is younger, more democratic, and less educated than the first. This difference is due almost entirely to the weakening of the Constitutional Democrats, who mostly belong to the nobility and are well educated. The Constitutional Democrats, however, remain pre-eminent among parties, not only for numerical strength, but birth and learning. To them must, therefore, fall a large share in the guidance of the second Duma. The Populist Socialists whose watch word is the welfare of the masses, but not at the price of the doctrinaire Socialism, have amalgamated with the Toil group, which has no defined political programme. The Socialists, Revolutionaries, who demand the expropriation of all lands without compensation, and the Social Democrats, whose creed is borrowed from Marx ; have, it is understood, separately decided to support the Constitutional Democratic candidate for the Presidency of Duma, whose election to-morrow will follow M. Golubeff's inaugural speech.

OPENING OF THE DUMA.

The opening of the new Duma took place in St. Petersburg on March 5. The ceremony was of a very simple character. In the course of the preliminary proceedings, the Monarchist Deputies indulged in a demonstration of loyalty to the Emperor, while the Left and Centre remained silent. M. Golovin, Constitutional Democrat, of Moscow, was elected President, by 336 votes to 102. He made a brief speech, urging that all should unite for the realisation of reforms on a constitutional basis for the welfare of the country. The House adjourned till Friday. The St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Times" gives some details regarding M. Golovin's career. In Ministerial circles great satisfaction is expressed regarding the first day's proceedings of the Duma. The loyalist demonstrations are considered to provide a safe-guard against its despersal. The Opposition are animated by the one desire to save the Duma. The Socialist organs preach moderation. Notwithstanding these favourable auspices, no certain hope is felt of the Duma's longevity. In confirmation of yesterday's forebodings I may state that there is every reason to believe that a law is already drafted restricting the suffrage and reducing the Duma to a consultative assembly.

Sir Arthur Nicolson went to Gatchina yesterday and had an audience of the Empress Marie on the occasion of her Majesty's departure for England.

The same correspondent telegraphs (March 6):—The Duma creates a distinctly good impression. The whole of the Press, with the solitary exception of the *Russkoe Znamya*, refers with unqualified approval to the attitude of the Opposition. *Rossiya* says that "the first impression is favourable, even reassuring," and adds that "the Duma looks as if it had come to stay." The failure of the majority of the Opposition to rise when M. Golubeff opened the session in the Emperor's name is eagerly seized upon by the "Russkoe Znamya" as a pretexts for the dispersal of the Duma. The *Rossiya* says that the incident is of no importance. The "Retch," however apparantly recognises that the Opposition missed an excellent opportunity of disarming the reactionaries. It explains that the Opposition meant no slight or disrespect, but simply declined to follw the lead of the Extreme Right. This is perfectly true, but it is none the less regrettable.

GREAT BRITAIN, RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

Tokio, March 6 (*Times*).—The prospect of an Anglo-Russian *entente* is heartily welcomed in Japan. The newspapers declare that an agreement between England, France, Russia, and Japan would ensure the peace of East Asia for many years. There is, they say, no real obstacle to such an *entente*, which, if achieved, would render King Edward's reign one of the most illustrious in the history of the world.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

The question whether a discussion of the restriction of armaments shall be placed on the agenda of The Hague Conference is still (March 3) undecided, and is the subject of confidential negotiations between the Powers which will be represented at The Hague. If this matter were brought before the Conference by England or another Power, Germany, it is semi-officially stated, would in no way offer any opposition, the official view being that it is exteremely desirable that it should be thoroughly discussed.

St. Petersburg, March 3 "Reuter".—Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman's article on disarmament has been telegraphed here. The "Bourse Gazette" alone publishes comments. It declares that Russia's interests demand a reduction or military expenditure, and that Russia is sufficiently assured by the French alliance and the impending English alliance but that German influences are contracting the dictates of reason.

VIENNA, March 3 (Morning Post).—Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's article on the limitation of armaments has attracted much attention here. If the English Government insists on the discussion of the question the other states will be unable to oppose that course, though the discussion will probably be more platonic and theoretical than practical.

Professor de Martens, the Russian Envoy, who is now in Vienna, declared to a representative of the "Neue Freie Presse" that the English initiative must be welcomed as the first step. Though the limitation of armaments was not yet feasible, discussion of the question might be fruitful in preparing the ground for the future.

THE CLOSING OF THE BALTIC.

GERMAN ACTIVITY IN DENMARK.

Paris, March 5 (Time).—I have received to-day from a trustworthy authority a broad certain information of a serious nature which may or may not have reached those whom it should chiefly concern. In any case it furnishes a powerful argument to such as would fain see the indisputable superiority of British naval power maintained beyond all misguided idealism of intellectual doctrinaries. So much has been going on at home and near home within the last year or two that some very striking and important factors have escaped public notice and it is one of these factors which I am now able to set briefly before your readers. It is the predominant position which Germany has—thanks in a great measure to the practical non-existance of Russia as a military Power—for a few years past taken up in Demark of which one of the consequences promises to be an attempt to close the Baltic Sea to foreign fleets. Towards that grave modification of the status 'quo' in Europe Germany is working at present tooth and nail under the very eyes of the other interested European States who seem helpless in presence of the vigorous efforts which are being made by that Power.

The former German Minister at Copenhagen, Herr von Schon, promoted last year as a reward for his services in Denmark to the post of Ambassador at St. Petersburg worked indefatigably and successfully for five years to bring about a complete change of relations between the Danes and the Germans. The treaty concerning the option of nationality signed two months ago was manifest evidence that the policy of "rapprochement had been finally consummated. The two visits of the German Emperor to Copenhagen in 1903 and 1905, and that of King Frederick of Denmark to Berlin last December served to cement the Germano-Danish 'entente." The visit of the German squadron to Denmark in July 1905 had been too promptly followed by that of the British squadron in September of the same year to produce all the effect that had been expected of it but there is reason to believe that the despatch of British ships to the Baltic profoundly incensed the German Emperor who has ever since been steadily pursuing the end which he is now on the high road to attain—namely, that of making the Baltic a "mare clausum" by neutralising the straits.

If that were all, the British Fleet might some day scatter William II.'s ideal to the winds, But Germany has acquired a solid commercial footing in Denmark without attracting much notice abroad. According to the latest statistics, which appeared last year, German imports into Denmark amount to 220,000,000 kroner (12,222,222*l.*) out of a total of 600,000,000 kroner (33,333,333*l.*), British imports into Denmark, on the contrary, show a certain decrease. In connection with this commercial development, the country is overrun by representatives of German commercial firms. Some 1,200 German commercial houses are at present represented in Denmark, and only 100 British commercial firms. Germany thus obtains a real flood of information not only commercial, but also political.

Germany will soon have established her absolute preponderance in the Baltic. The relations between William II and the King of the wSeden are of the most cordial character while Gemany shows here-selffavour able tajidea hentralisation of Norway. The Emperor has alwas been nery popular an Norwa particularly since he gave a considerablysome for the uictimsto foe fire at Aalsund, He is full of attention for new King For linstance, sent him theuniform of a GremanAdmirs by one of his aides-de-camp, who went specially to Christiania for the purpose. Nor it can be denied that German commerce is making great efforts in Norway, which is also largely exploited by German commercial travellers. The light "contretemps" experienced by the Emperor through the oc assion to the Throne of King Haakon, son-in-law of King Edward, is all but forgotten, and nothing is being neglected to make up for lost time, which is all the less difficult as there is much sympathy for Germany in Norway. But the main idea which, although not at present on the list of county and borough electors. He hoped the party to which he belonged would not refuse to women what would stand owt in history as an elementary right of both sexes.

Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, who explained that he spoke early because he had to leave the House, said he would state at once the attitude of the Government. This was one of the not infrequent occasions when it was the duty and necessity of a Government to leave the decision of the question before the House to the House itself. On this subject, there was difference of opinion on almost every bench in the House. He personally was in favour of the general principle of the inclusion of women in the franchise. He held that view not solely on the ground of an abstract right or prineiple. Woman paid taxes and obeyed laws which she had no part in making. She had to ast upon arrangements which affected her personal liberty in a thousand ways. The case had been very much intensified of late years in the large increase in the number of women engaged in wage-earning. The time had long passed when it was sufficient to urge that a woman by her nature and position in society was sheltered in some mysterious way from the rough and tumble of life, and was unequal to taking any part or exercising any share in public affairs. We had given up the idea, or we ought to have given it up, that a woman, if he might use the phrase, was an Uitlander by predestination. The side from which he approached this question was not that of abstract right but from the side of expediency. Was it good for the State that women should be excluded from the franchise ? Was it for the public advantage ? He referred to the large number of question on which the views of women were as valuable, if not more valuable, than those of men, such as education, municipal milk depots, infant mortality, the care of pauper children, the question of temperance, and other cognate matters which had been or would come before Parliament. He was not, however, warmly enamoured of this particular Bill (cheers and counter-cheers), and the hon. member who moved at had not convinced him (the Premier) that it met his view of the case. The measure would enfranchise a small minority of well-to-do single women ; it would not touch to any degree the mass of working women in the country. The Bill, however, was right so far as it went ; and he would vote for it as a declaration of opinion that the exclusion of women from the franchise was neither expedient justifiable, nor politically right (cheers).

Mr. Whitehead moved the rejection of the Bill, declaring that there was no public demand for it. With regard to what he called the "physical force group" who went on their merry pilgrimage to Downing (laughter), he declared that their action was a big game of bluff, and nothing more. For the Press it provided most excellent "copy." These ladies were able to secure a gratuitous advertisement for their case ; but he contended that their agitation was conclusive evidence that there was no substantial or deep-seated demand behind for the Bill. The measure if carried, would bring about far-reaching and momentous consequences ; it would introduce into our Constitution an entirely new basis—a change as great as any of those brought about by the great Reform Bills. An organic change such as this was not one which ought to be undertaken at the instance of a private member ; it was a matter for which the Government alone must accept responsibility. A Bill such as this would inevitably stand in the way of the great scheme of social reform on which the supporters of the Government had set their hearts. If this Bill was rejected by the House of Lords, it would be an object lesson to the people of the power and duty of the other House. If it was accepted, it would mean an immediate appeal to the country.

Mr. Bertram seconded the rejection of the bill. He denied that the very shrill and noisy agitation which had been going on during the past six or seven months represented the wishes and desires of the general body of women in the country. He did not believe that the bulk of the women in the country desired the franchise. (Hear, hear.) The ultimate issue of Parliamentary government in this country must undoubtedly be the establishment of the franchise upon what was called manhood suffrage. What would happen under this bill ? What was bound to arise from it? Were they going to get the representation of interests or aims or objects which were incapable of representation under the present

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Annual Meeting.

A very successful meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association was held yesterday night in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, Wodehouse Road, the Hon'ble Mr. H. E. Procter presiding. There was a large attendance of the members and of the ladies and gentlemen intersted in this institution which has for its object the advancement of the young men and women of India. The reports read by the Secretary showeld a marked progress in every department of the Association, the Spiritual, Intellectual and Physical.

THE NEW BUILDING.

The formal opening of the New Building which took place on the 25th September was performed by His Excellency Lord Lamington, Governor of Bombay, who after inspecting the Building said he could not conceive any other place more conducive to the comfort of those who were lucky enough to be residents. The situation was second to none in Bombay. And the special feature which struck him was the distinctly homely feeling of every room he saw. They reminded him more of his college in Oxford than anything he had seen since his advent to Bombay.

He was confident that that feature must have a very strong influence on the lives of those who lived in the Chambers.

The feature by which the Association's new abode is chiefly distinguished from the old is the Chambers. These have fulfilled their mission of providing "a home" from home in a very gratifing manner. The first rooms were occupied at the beginning of April, before the the plaster was dry or the water laid on, and the finishing touches were hardly put on the building before every room was occupied. The year closed with 50 men in residence and a list of applicants for the earliest vacancies. The social tone and moral atmesphere of the home have been all that could be desired, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that while the boarding fees have been arranged on a scale that brings good accommodation and congenial company in reach of some who would otherwise have had great difficulty in finding them, finding them, financially the venture has been sufficiently successful to enable the General Fund to make a contribution of Rs. 2,500 to the Building Fund. The General Committee would here put on record their appreciation of the services of Mrs. Whitehead, who has fulfilled the responsible duties of Lady Superintendent since the opening of the Chambers.

MEMBERSHIP.

The membership in the Central Building is 440—131 Active and 309 Associate—as compared with 373 a year ago, and 273 two years ago.

PRAYER MEETING.

There has been a marked difference in the Prayer-life of the Association during the year. The news of revival in Wales and elsewhere, and especially in India produced a heartfelt longing on the part of Association workers for similar results in Bombay.

The Sunday Morning Bible Class continues to be an institution, and the interest in it has been steadily maintained. Mr. W. R. Stevenson acted as Secretary with great acceptance during the first part of the year and Mr. W. K. Robinson afterwards. Four Bible Circles were carried on outside of the Association Building during certain periods of the year. A Chambers Bible Class meets weekly. Young Men's Meetings have been carried on throughout the year on alternate Thursdays. Gospel addresses, character-skatches, straight talks, and addresses by young men to young men were given. The meetings conducted entirely by young men have been very succesful.

Towards the close of the year a Personal Workers' Class, under the leadership of Mr. Frank Clark, was commenced for the special purpose of training young men to become active in Christ's service. A pleasant Sunday night has been spent weekly by those who assemble in the Lounge Room after dinner. The "Sunday-night at Home" has almost been made a reality for many who live in a foreign city,

TEMPERANCE LECTURES.

The first regular meeting in the New Y. M. C. A. Hall, was held on the 5th of April, when the Rev. A. H. Bowman, M. A., commenced a series of five temperance lectures, illustrated by lime-light views, dealing principally with the effects of alcohol on the human system. Large numbers came to these lectures, the average attendence being one hundred and thirty-five; and Mr. Bowman made a powerful appeal on each occasion for total abstinence. Evidence of the lasting effect of these appeals has come to hand many times since.

LITERARY SOCIETY.

Under the auspices of the Literary Society 17 lectures were arranged for the season March 1906 to March 1907.

Twenty-three other meetings of a literary character were held during the year, including two inter-debates with the Wesleyan Church Guild. The Library books were reclassified and renumbered during the latter part of the year. About to hundred volums have been rebound and some new books added. There is now at the disposal of members 1,332 volumes in good condition and properly classified. The Committee owe a deep debt of grantitude to Mr. H. B. Grundy for the many hours which he has spent at this work. The Reading Room has been well supplied with the best weekly and monthly papers and magazines.

The educational work reported last year was a new feature of the Association's activities. The classes were with difficulty organized, and with still greater difficulty maintained. They were kept in existence for three months only of the year under review. There has been no desire on the part of members to have them re-commenced. The Hindustani class alone continues; it meets three times weekly.

A movement was set on foot in September to from a Glee Club, which has since come into being. This also was due to Mr. Chambers initiative, and has met a happier fate, being still flourishing under the leadership of Mr. Frank Clark. Mr. Chambers was unable to keep up his connection with it, and the General Committee, while expressing their regret at the loss of his services, would also thank Mr. Chambers for his exertions on behalf of the social side of the Association's work.

ATHLETIC CLUB.

The Committee reports with much satisfaction that the receipts during the year were Rs. 1,549-13-4 against an expenditure of Rs. 1,620-0-10; in other words that the Athletic Club was run at practically no loss to the Association. And when it is taken into account that Annual Sports, Football, Cricket, and Tennis were run successfully, and that during the latter part of the year the membership was small owing to there being only one Tennss Court this was by no means a small achievement. They desire to place on record their appreciation of the kind services of Mr. H. G. Pooler as Secretary during the greater part of the year, and their regret at his departure from Bombay.

ANNUAL SPORTS.

The second Annual Sports meeting took place on the 16th and 17th of March. There were twelve events each day and nearly 150 entries. The members races perhaps on the whole were hardly as well contested as last year, but the open races provided excellent sports. Not the least interesting were the several items for the juniors. In these the interest was sustained right to the finish and the results give us cause to believe that the sports will be as contested a few years hence as now, when the present stalwarts will have given place to the boys now fizuring in the junior competitions. At the close of the second days sports valvable prizes were presented by Mrs. Procter to the winners. Mr. Procter's Silver Challenge Cup and Mr. Pyrke's Silver Challenge Cup were won by H. Coulson; and the B. B. & C. I. Railway Silver Challenge Bowl, open to all comers, was carried off by Mr. Fido. The Committee beg to return hearty thanks to Mr. J. B. Cullen who so ably organized the Sports, and to the many public donors of prizes.

TENNIS

The usual Tennis Tournaments were held in March, when Mr. W. B. George carried of the singles for the third time in succession, and Messrs. G. Tweddle and N. George the Doubles. The Silver Challenge Cup went to Mr. W. N. George. Thanks are due to Mr. N. George for acting as Tournament Secretary.

When Tennis was re-umed after the monson play was much restricted owing to there being only one Court. Towards the close of the year, Government very kindly leased to the Association a plot of land near the Wodehouse Bridge on which three excellent Tennis Courts and a Badminton Court have been prepared; these in addition to the one at the rear of the Building should prove adequate to the Association's requirements.

All the Courts were made under the supervision of Mr. A. E. Thomas, who effected a large saving on estimates. The Association is deeply indebted to him for this and for his kind services as Tennis Secretary.

FOOTBALL.

A strong "Association" team was formed as in the previous year with Mr. H. G. Pooler as Captain. It gave an excellent account of itself in the various League matches coming second in the finals, but owing to a match not being played through the death of Mr. Samways, one of the eleven, whose loss is deeply mourned, the team was not awarded second place, and consequently did not receive the silver medals which were their due.

A Rugby team was formed for the first time, and entered for the Tournament. It was a bold venture, and no one was surprised when they came to grief early. It made clear however that there was good material to hand which might be successfully manipulated in the future.

CRICKET.

The Cricket players were not so numerous as in the previous year. Only one team entered into the fixtures for the season. Eighteen matches were played against outside teams. Mr. R. G. Monteath, President of the Athletic Club, very kindly presented two bats for the best bowling and batting averages. These were won by Mr. F. H. Vining and Mr. W. B. George respectively The best thanks of the Committee are due to Messrs. Norman George and R. Atkinson for their kind offices as Secretaries. The playing on the Y.M.C.A. pitch during the season was very unsatisfactory, owing to the low ground being constantly flooded during the monsoon. The Committee are pleased to report that the ground is being raised and otherwise prepared for next season by the P. W. D. A plot twice the size of that in use formerly has been rented by the Association and will be kept in first-class order throughout the whole year. This ought to open the way for cold season cricket.

THE GYMNASIUM.

Gymnasium Classes were arranged in June shortly after the Gymnasium fittings were completed, under the control of an able instructor from the Royal Scots. The membership at one time reached sixty-five, and great enthusiasm prevailed, chiefly through the efforts of Mr. L. Rose the Secretary. Towards the close of the year the attendence dwindled, and the classes have been discontinued for a short time. As the Classe met three times a week, a great amount of good work was done during the six months of its existence. The Committee beg to suggest that in future three months courses be arranged, with examination at the end of each. This would tend to concentration of energy and definiteness of result.

THE SOCIAL GATHERING.

Among other things which have taken a stride forward since the Association entered the new building are the Monthly socials. These have without exception been very successful throughout the year, and the average attendence has between been 150 and 200.

Although social gatherings are an integral part of the Association's programme of work, the Socials in the early part of the year made, perhaps disproportionate demands on the General Secretary's time and energy. It is the more gratifying therefore to be able to record that his efforts were not threwn away since the interest wakened has been sufficient to bring forward helpers by whose aid the Socials now run almost automatically. Some have spent much time and taken great pains to make the last Tuesday in the month a great success, and their work is much appreciated as a valuable aid to the popularising the Association and keeping it in touch with a large circle of friends. The Committee's thanks are due to these, and especially to Mr. Gay the Secretary.

The "Social Union Club," formed to bring the younger members of the Association more together by intercourse along social, recreative and literary lines, has not been the great success that was expected.

The "Chambers Saturday Club," formed in the latter part of the year by the Chambers' Residents, has met with a kinder fate. Table talks on religious, moral, political and social questions have been held fortnightly; and trips on the harbour, cycle runs, musical evenings and "At Homes" arranged.

CHESS CLUB.

The interest is Chess was maintained as in the former year by the tournment for the silver Challenge Cup and Medals, organized and conducted by the Secretary, Mr. W. J. George.

There were 13 entries and each competitor had to meet every other Competitor.

Mr. Rath won the Cup and first Silver Medal, Mr. Owen the second Medal, and Mr. Billeter the third.

BYCULLA BRACH.

The work in the Byculla Indian Christian Branch has been very unsatisfactory during the past year. It is evident that a whole time paid Secretary is much needed, as an honorary worker cannot possibly perform the difficult task of keeping up the work of the Association.

Mr. Arlikatti has worked hard, but he has received little support from the general membership.

The receipts during the year were Rs. 224-14-4, and the expediture Rs. 653-2-0; the balance was met from the Central funds.

STUDENT BRANCH.

The work of the Student Department has been carried on during the year in the rooms rented for the purpose in Girgaum Road, on the same lines as before. The rooms, small as they are, form an indispensable centre for getting into touch with men, and all who come there know well that they will find every opportunity for enquiring into the Christian faith. The daily attendance of educated non-Christians coming to read the papers, etc., has been about 100.

The Student Department has made possible special addresses by such prominent men as the Bishop of Bombay and Sir Alexander Simpson, M. D.; on both occasions the room was crowded to its utmost capacity. Meetings ware also organized in the Framji Cowasjee Hall and Wilson College Hall (by kind permission of the Principal for Dr. S. Motoda and Mr. T. Harada, the Y. M. C. A. delegates from Japan: these were exceedingly well attended.

The Chairman in addressing the meeting said that during the past five years he had had the honour of presiding at these meetings the Association had been growing year by year. If five years ago they had been told that they would have a building of their own worth Rs. 1,60,000, he did not think any of them would have believed it. But they had gone actually beyond their greatest expectations, for now they had such a building with half the capital cost paid up. In addition to this building, another great thing for which they had to be thankful was the fact mentioned in the report that the Association had developed in every way—spiritually, intellectually, socially and physically. This was, indeed a matter of thankfulness; he was particularly pleased to note the development of the spiritual side of the Association As long as the growth and development of the spiritual side continued all would go well. But when they thought of a building like this there was a danger that the spiritual side of the life would be lost sight of. The chairman reminded his hearers of what the Amir had said in a recent speech about the requisition of knowledge. The Amir was reported to have said that knowledge was the superstructure, but religion was the foundation of everything. The chairman said he would put this in another way and say that the foundation of character was the persistent association with Christ. This was what this Association aimed at, namely, to bring together the younger men of the city and to help them to lead a true Christian life. It was a matter of real thankfulness that their spiritual growth had been marked during the past year, and he hoped it would continue to be so in years to come. The chairman then expressed his thanks on behalf of the Association to the Government for their grant of Rs. 3000 and also for the plot of ground they had leased to the Association for the tennis courts. In consulting his speech, the chairman thanked Mr. Sharpe Mr. Morgan Young, Mr. Hawse and Mr. James Mac Whirter. General Secretary for rendering valuable service to the Assotiation in different directions during the pasn year.

Mr. C. H. Armstrong in briefly addressing the meeting wished every success to the institution as he thought that it was capable of doing great good to the young men on the city.

Mr. A. H. S. Aston referred to the work done in connection with the athletic side of the Association,

Mr. Lindesay J. Robertson appealed to the commercial world of Bombay to help on the work of the Association, which could achieve still better results if it received support from that direction.

Mr. G. B. Coleman regretted that the educational classes started by the Association had not been so successful as one would have wished. The cause laid down for this non-success was the climate from which most of them had to suffer. If that were so, he suggested that evening classes might be turned into morning classes. Mr. Coleman then dwelt upon the desirability of every young man taking an early opportunity of studying one of the arts or sciences.

The Rev. Dr. D. Mackichan supported the appeal made by Mr. Robertson to the commercial world for help and expressed the hope that their friends, Mr. Armstrong and Procter, would induce other members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce to join the Y. M. C. A. He then expressed the regret felt by himself and the Association at the fact that their very energetic Secretary Mr. McWhirter was to leave them shortly. Dr. Machickan concluded by saying that they owed a deep debt of gratitude to their President, Mr. Procter, for what he had done for the Association in the past, and hoped that his connection with the Association would last for a long time to come.

The Chairman having briefly thanked the meeting, the proceedings terminated.

KARACHI CIVIL HOSPITAL.—Government is spending about five lakhs on the Civil Hospital buildings which are now nearing completion. The various wards are splendidly built, and as regards the interiors, up-to-date, and we may say sumptuous. While, however, it has been found necessary to increase the accommodation owing to the urgent requirements of Karachi, the staff employed is apparently considered adequate. But is it? The Civil Surgeon resides at a great distance from the Hospital and has other duties to perform. The House Surgeon is therefore the only qualified medical officer, but he cannot be expected to remain on duty day and night, nor even to be always present. In his absence the Hospital is consequently left to the care of the Hospital Assistant. It is superfluous to urge the necessity of a Surgeon on duty, particularly so when it is remembered that nearly all serious accident cases are taken to the Civil Hospital. Government ought to consider the advisability of a liberal increase in the staff. A resident Surgeon, who should be a commissioned officer, with two Assistant Surgeons, and a sufficient and competent staff of Nurses, Hospital Assistants and other attendants are required. Karachi has but one public Hospital properly so called, and it is reasonable to expect it to be well equipped and ably and adequately manned. The nursing staff will probably be brought into line as regards salary with the other large Hospitals when the Presidency Nursinghome comes into force.—*Sind Gazette.*

PUNJAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Annual Meeting.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

DELHI, MARCH 22.

The annual meeting of the Punjab Chamber of Commerce was held to-day at the Town Hall.

The Chairman delivered an address as sent by Rai Sahib Girdarilal which supported the railway policy suggested by the Chairman.

General sympathy is expressed for small traders.

The Chamber's membership is now seventy.

The following is the address of Mr. James Currie, Chairman, at the annual meeting of the Punjab Chamber of Commerce held at Delhi yesterday:—

This meeting would have been called for an earlier date had it not been that a revision of the rules was deemed desirable and necessary to admit of all trade centres having a more direct say and interest in the management of the affairs and work of the Chamber than was possible under the rules on which the Chamber was constituted. The new rules may not be perfect ones, but they meet the case in the meantime, and they are a step in the right direction which is a great thing. The important changes they introduce into the constitution of the Chamber are consistent with the development that is taking place on all sides in the province and the influential and representative contingent that came into the membership at Lahore and Rawalpindi and the increased membership at Amritsar fully justify the revision. I congratulate you, gentlemen, on having realised so fully and so frankly what was necessary, what was unquestionably the best for the Chamber and for the commercial interests of the Punjab. Briefly, the position now is this. Trade centres which can muster a membership of six or more are entitled to a Local Committee and Local Committees are empowered to send to the Committee of the Chamber one delegate for every six subscribing members on their roll and to keep all Local Committees in touch with one another and with the Committee of the Chamber there will be in the hands of each duplicate files with a complete record of what is in the possession of the Chamber. The papers that are circulating to-day in Delhi are circulating in duplicate at all the other centres. In this way the information and matter before the Chamber is distributed systematically.

The Local Committees will concentrate their opinions and experience on the Committee of the Chamber, and this Committee will voice the opinions and interests of members. The sympathy and hearty co-operation of all concerned in the trade in the province will be secured and retained, and if there is openness of mind, singleness of purpose, and absolute frankness in the expression of views and opinions as I feel confident, there will be in all proceedings ultimate success and great usefulness is ahead of the Chamber. The report of the work of the Committee for the year which is now submitted to you for adoption speaks for itself, and I need not take up your time going over the various matters that occupied attention. The cultivation of Jute in the Province will be watched with keen interest. It is a matter of great satisfaction to the Committee that a reasonable percentage for refraction in wheat has been agreed on. The establishment of an information Bureau at the Main Railway Station here is felt to be a want and is being urged for. The question of the location and construction of a telegraph office here will also most likely be brought forward. The Committee has recommended a site central and suitable which it is to be hoped Government will see its way to set aside for this purpose.

RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK.

You will also see from the report that our manufacturers and merchants have had their troubles about Railway wagons like their neighbours, but, thanks to the energy and good management for our Railway men and the strenuous efforts of Traffic Managers, to supplement promptly with what they could trade has been very well served here with wagons, everything considered. An ample wagon supply is all important to a manufacturing and large distributing centre like Delhi, but it is also of vital importance all along the line for when there is at a widespread and general scarcity of wagons as there is at present, it is the small trader, the man who cannot make himself heard much beyond the station-yard that we should be anxious about. He is the man at the present moment, I fear, who is suffering most and he is a very important factor in the economic *bandobust* of this country, cripple his facilities, check his enterprise, inflict losses on him by delaying the transport of his goods and you do it at the cost of the best interests of the country. I hope it will be seen so that he gets his fair share of the wagons that are available.

This leads up to a consideration of the greater question to that of Railways generally. Great credit is due to Government for what it has done for Railways, and the names of the men who have pleaded their cause and helped them forward in the Government and outside of it deserve to be inscribed on the front page of thier history in letters of gold. The cry to-day for more wagons is the result of their activity. It is the appeal of the commercial and industrial enterprise for a wider field for more room which they made possible. It is more, it is the protest of businessmen that the time has come for the control and development of the Railways of India to be conducted on business lines. The protest is quite reasonable, there is nothing of censure in it. The eagerness of the Government of India to promote Railways has always been in evidence.

The present magnificent system would not be operating to-day but for that eagerness. Business men recognise this frankly, but that their opinion differs from that of Government with regard to the methods that now should be adopted in the control of this department is another thing. They cannot understand why in the matter of the construction of Railways it should not at once and without any further waste of time be realised that private enterprise is not to be relied on; that it is not possible on a scale that will be of any use to India as things stand on the terms that now are offered to the public. The reason is simple enough, the Government does not trust the city, and the city does not understand the Government. They have been coquetting for 20 years with the safe men on both sides suffering from an excess of caution and nothing is done. Government has had to find the money in the end, and so it is that industries and trade are hampered for the want of a sufficiency of rails and rolling stock. Moreover, the time has passed when the money necessary for Railways can be adequately and conveniently provided for in the Imperial budget; that the day had passed when the Finance Member found it necessary to place a limit to the sum that could be allotted to Railways. That is the position to-day and it calls for a change. There are no doubt difficulties. In a many-sided question and in a great question like this of the control and management of the Railways of India there must be grave difficulties to face when a change is called for, but it is for Government to face and overcome whatever difficulties there may be and with the aid of the experience of the past and of the experience that demand a change bring into operation a simple, effective and responsible system of control and of finance which will supply the country with transit facilities as transit is required.

Now the Port Trust of India, the Port Trusts of Calcutta and Bombay, afforded a splendid example of what a combination of Government control and business experience can do in the administration of public concerns which to all intents and purposes are great commercial enterprises. These Trusts have the confidence of Government and of the public. They are in close touch on the one hand with Government and on the other with commerce which contributes greatly to their strengthened usefulness, and when a facility is wanted or a grievance has to be redressed they are got-at-able and that is more than half the battle in the management of any concern. It is something of this nature that is wanted to take over the Railway department of the Government of India. Why should

A RAILWAY TRUST,

constituted on the lines of these trusts not do for Railways what the Port Trusts are doing for their Ports. There are good reasons to believe that it would do all this. Its finance would be dealt with in a budget of its own and results alone would make it possible for equipment and development to follow closely the measure of the necessities of the country. Commercial experience would lead it to anticipate with facilities the requirements of commerce and whether by the issue of debentures in the open market or by the Agency of private enterprise it would get the work done. There is an assurance that this would be so far its Trustees would be capable men, the best that Government and commerce could give who would shape for their Trust a broad and liberal policy based on business experience and sound finance. It may be protested that Railway finance is of giant proportions compared with that of the Trusts I refer to, but the system and methods of control, I submit, are the same and the results would assuredly be the same. After all it is on the balance sheet of a concern like that of a Railway Trust and on the confidence afforded the Board of Trustees that the public place their money when they are asked to subscribe. There need not therefore be any fear that there will ever be a check to the development of Railways for the want of capital so long as they are in the hands of a responsible Trust, and it is in evidence that they are necessary, are serving their purpose, and are remunerative. And with regard to their position from the Finance Minister's point of view as a revenue contributing department, you will all be with me, I think, when I express the hope that it will be recognised that as Railways operate with the thrift and industry of the people to maintain the balance of trade in favour of India—a matter of vital importance to India—they should be placed on an independent and self-contained basis to be financed and worked to give the cheapest and best transit that they can yield. The sacrifice—and there is undoubtedly a sacrifice—involved from the revenue side of the Budget standpoint in handing them over by a Trust will, in time, be amply compensated for by an increase in the revenue from land, canal lands, and from that land which is now outside the influence of the present Railway system, but which will be opened up as Railways are extended to it and from the general prosperity of the people which must come in the wake of the efficiency of their better management and expansion.

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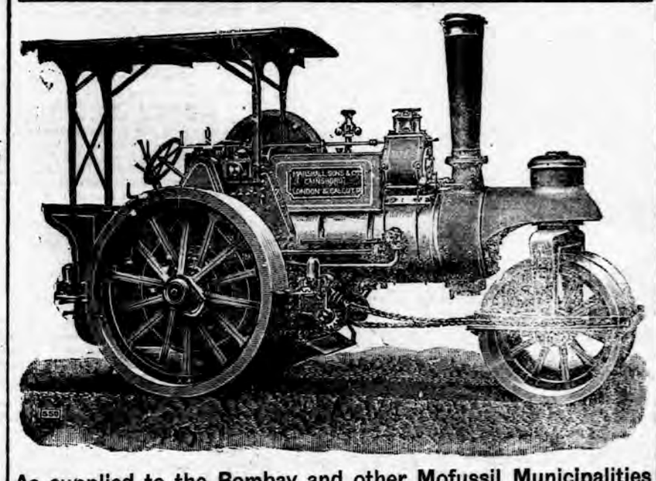

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IMPURITIES IN THE BLOOD.—"We have seen hosts of letters from all sorts and conditions of people, in which the writers acknowledge the benefit they have received from Clarke's Blood Mixture, which as a curative agent cannot be too highly estimated, since it cleanses and clears the blood from all impurities, and restores it to its normal condition." This is a good testimonial from the *Family Doctor*, the popular medical weekly, which goes on further to say: "It is certainly the finest blood purifier that science and skill have brought to light, and we can, with the utmost confidence, recommend it to our subscribers and the public generally."

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GOSSIP OF THE WEEK.

LONDON, MARCH 8.

THE RAT-CATCHER DAUGHTER.

Although the rat-catcher may complain that his trade is bad, he can hardly say that it is going to the dogs seeing that a man in Yorkshire has undertaken to worry rats with his teeth. The average person would imagine that law ought to prevent such a bestial exhibition. But that is one of the things the law cannot do. Only by some ingenious oblike method could it step in. Its helplessness in such a matter was proved a year ago, when a ruffian was taken into a police court after trading upon the ability of his daughter to bite the heads off a given number of rats in a certain time. Come and see the lady bite the heads off live rats," was his seductive cry to those about his show and he held up the caged rats of which the gentle lady was to make mouthfuls. There was no law in the land directly operative to suppress this hideous exhibitions. What the police did to summon the wretch for obstructing the thoroughfare by causing a crowd to assemble. The magistrate dismissed the case.

THE KING'S MESSENGERS.

Steam and the telegraph have done much to alleviate the hardship of the lot of the royal couriers, but the tragic death of Mr. Herbert reminds us that the office of the King's Messengers still exists and still has its perils. The service which these men perform is so secret that there exists but scanty record of their valour. The late Sir Edward Hertslet in his chapter on the King's Messengers reveals a terrible picture of the sufferings borne by these brave fellows. Before the steamship came, when the weather was too rough for a sailing vessel to attempt the passage, these heroes would make the crossing in open boats. This was the method regularly employed during the Napoleonic wars. From Cuxhaven to Great Yarmouth was the route. One Messenger, a Hertslet, was over four months in getting from St. Petersburg to London. He was in the saddle for the greater part of fifty-two days; he was held up at Cuxhaven for twenty-eigat days, owing to the great quantities of ice afloat, and the actual passage in an open boat occupied seven days.

UNKNOWN HEROES.

In the days to which reference has been made a Royal Messenger would have been what the insurance offices describe as a "bad life." A dozen of them died within a comparatively short period. Two were drowned while attempting to land in a gale at Calais, but a third recovered their despatches and carried them to Lord Malmesbury. Many, travelling in bullock-wagons over unmade roads, had to figot for their lives and possessions. One fought a boatload of Sicilian pirates and died before he would surrender his wallet. Another was murdered at Madrid, in the same year that a comrade died of frostbite. The Russian journey killed one who had been three-and-twenty days in the saddle and proved too much for a hero who struggled to St. Petersburg when suffering from cholera. The story of the Royal Messengers during the closing years of the eighteenth century and the opening of the nineteenth is one long record of tragedy—a story of heroes lives given in the service of a country which never paid them too well nor with excessive warmth acknowledged the valour and self-denying character of their performances.

IMPUGNED RECORDS.

There is a grim story to be heard among the hills in the Lake Country of a dog which was long imprisoned in a crevasse with its master. The dog came out alive, but the theory is that the dead body of its master had sustained it. What ought to be the record story of this character is that of a foxhound at Cannon Hall. Suspected of being diseased, it was hanged, then thrown down a coal-pit, ninety feet deep. Eighty-nine days latter the dog was taken out of the coal-pit alive and in perfect health. Unfortunately for the fasting reputation of the hound, the story does not end there. It is stated that, before its own punishment, it had killed a donkey, and that the carcass of the latter had been thrown down the mine prior to its slayer's arrival. Even a dead donkey in a coal-pit may be better than no food for a captive hound.

NOVELISTS WHO PLAY MANY PARTS.

The late Mr. Archibald Gunter, author of "Mr. Barnes of New York," played many diverse parts in his time, from civil engineer and chemist to stockbroker and mining superintendent; but his career was scarcely as stated by a contemporary, "more varied and romantic than that of any living writer of fiction." Mr. Morley Roberts has done navvy's work and tended cattle and sheep in Australia; he has been sailor on many an ocean tramp, has toiled in Texas sawmills, on American railroads, and in the backwoods of Canada; has tramped thousands of miles in search of work, from New South Wales to California, and has driven a pen as an ill-paid clerk in the War and India Offices. Mr. Jack London has been in turn salmon-fisher, oyster-pirate, seal-hunter, gold-miner, tramp, lecturer, and fish-patrolman, to mention only a few of his varied activities. Mr. Bart Kennedy has played a bewildering number of parts on life's stage, from half-timer in a factory opera-singer, sailor, and gold-hunter in Klondyke; and Mr. Frank Bullen himself can scarcely recall all the stages of his romantic career that separate the paper-boy of forty years ago from the successful author of to-day.

THE IRISH COLLEGE, PARIS.

The authorities of the Irish College in Paris have just received official notice, in virtue of the Law of Separation, that two of its important foundations, in Paris and Bordeaux, have been sequestrated. The College, which was founded about 1580, is situated in the Rue des Irlandais, close to the Pantheon, but present but the present building is only 136 years old. Its income was mainly derived from the property in Bordeaux, and from the old College des Lombards, the gift of Louis XIV., which Irish students had inhabited for a century before migrating to the present building.

CURE FOR THE TOBACCO HABIT.

The other day we quoted a paragraph from the "British Medical Journal" which recommended as a cure for the tobacco habit the "rinsing out of the mouth with a 25 per cent. solution of silver nitrate after each indulgence in tobacco." Several correspondents have written us pointing out the danger of using such a solution. One goes so far as to assure us that it would "cause death at the first try." Under these circumstances it is to be hoped that no reader will experiment with the "cur" as recommended. The Editor of the "British Medical Journal" informs us that "25 per cent." was a mistake; it should have been "a 5 per cent solution."

A MAN OF THE MOMENT.

The conspicuous share which Mr. Jerome has taken as prosecutor in the Thaw trial has directed special attention to him; and an interesting account of his career is given in the book called "America's Awakening," by Philip Loring Allen, which has just been published by the Fleming H. Revell Co. The author desires to show that a moral wave is passing over America at present, and he anticipates that it will result in "the triumph of righteousness in high places." His position in connexion with the "New York Evening Post" has given him special facilities for meeting prominent men, and among these have been William Travers Jerome.

MR. JEROME'S CAREER.

Mr. Jerome was born at New York on April 18, 1859, and attended Amherst College. He graduated at Columbia Law School in 1884, and practised in New York for the succeeding eleven years. In 1888 he was appointed Assistant-District Attorney, and in 1895 became Justice of the Court of special Sessions. His great triumph was his election as District Attorney, New York County, on the Fusion Ticket in 1901, chiefly for the purpose of defeating the Tammany Ring; and he was re-elected in 1905 as an Independent. Since he entered upon his duties he has done much to purify the tainted atmosphere of New York, and has been fearless in his exposure of crimes that have hitherto been hidden.

IMPOVERISHING THE SEA.

In "Blackwood's Magazine" for March—a very readable number—a writer tells us that experience has shown that the opinion prevalent a generation ago, that the piscatory resources of the sea are inexhaustible, is not well founded. There is not now a single maritime country in Europe in which unrestricted liberty of fishing is permitted, and the tendency everywhere is to increase the stringency of the regulations and to extend them farther from the coast. It is in the North Sea, where trawling has been chiefly developed, that the effects of over-fishing are most marked.

A CORRESPONDENT of "Country Life" tells us of a curious mixed bag which he made lately in one of the "gazes" at Sowley. In that particular "gaze" he only shot four head in all, and it was made up of one coot, one widgeon, a sparrow-hook, and a Sclavonia grebe. For curious variety this must be something like a "record." He also mentions, in the same letter, an incident which occurred to a friend. He "put up a mallard with a peregrine on its back, holding on to it. The mallard could just flap its wings, or the peregrine, I fancy, would not have been able to lift it On being fired at the peregrine dropped the duck, which was afterwards picked up, and flew away."

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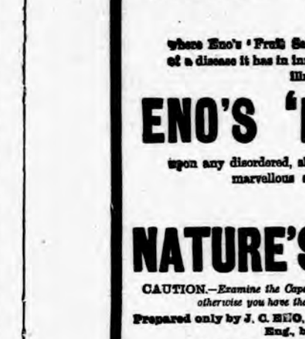

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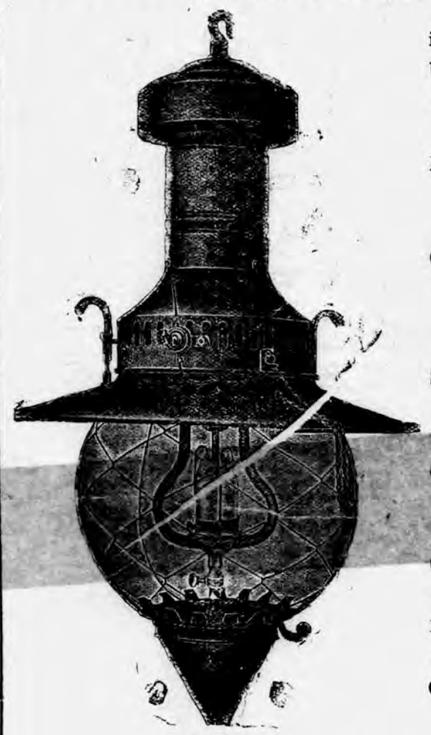

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